The New-York Times.

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HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS

Adjustment of the Mason-Slidell Difficulty.

The Rebel Commissioners to be Surrendered to England.

The Diplomatic Correspondence in Full.

An Able Exposition of the Case by Secretary Seward.

What the Government is to Gain by the Surrender.

Effect of the Trent Difficulty in Europe.

Great Numbers of Americans returning Home.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 28.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE TRENT DIFFICULTY.

The settlement of the Mason-Slidell case by the surrender of the prisoners to-day, is the universal theme of conversation in Washington. In army and Administration circles, the result gives great satisfaction. Government forbade the transmission of a single line on the subject by telegraph last night, although the entire correspondence was in the office of the *National Intelligencer*, set in type, to be published to-day. The reason assigned was that this was a more dignified mode of giving expression to a National decision than the hot haste of the telegraph and daily Press. There were those who interpreted the purpose of the Government differently, and ascribed this caution to a desire to remove MASON and SLIDELL safely from Fort Warren to ship-board before promulgating the fact of their intended release.

It was expected that there would be a very inflammatory outburst in Congress on the surrender of SLIDELL and MASON, but the publication of M. THOUVENEL'S dispatch changes the aspect of the case materially.

AMERICANS RETURNING.

Intelligence received by the *America's* mails, states that the Americans on the Continent are rapidly arriving at Paris, on their return home—fearing that if they protract their stay, they may be unable to leave at all. The current impression at Paris was, that in case of a war between the United States and Great Britain' France would unite with the latter Power, and this apprehension was generally shared by Americans abroad.

SUCCESSFUL FORAGING EXPEDITIONS.

Yesterday three regiments of Gen. WADSWORTH'S Brigade, accompanied by a reserve of two regiments of Gen. ANSON' Brigade, proceeded on a foraging expedition to within a mile of Fairfax Court-house. They returned with 60 loads of forage. To-day another expedition, from the same brigade, proceeded to the same neighborhood, and returned with 70 loads. Three of the rebel pickets were observed near Fairfax Court-house.

REBEL COMMUNICATIONS CONTINUED.

A detective reports that, notwithstanding repeated efforts by Government to prevent communications with the enemy, merchandise and mails are continually carried from St. Mary's County, Maryland, to Virginia, and that persons are constantly crossing the river. Many rebels have returned to Maryland to spend Christmas. Letters from rebel soldiers are received by their friends in this city, and freely answered, the Post-office unwittingly aiding in carrying the correspondence. It is known that persons pass to and fro between us and the enemy, on the Upper Potomac.

REBEL MAP OF THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN.

Gen. MCCLELLAN has just received a lithographic map prepared to illustrate the battle of Bull Run for the information of rebel readers. It is entitled "Sketch of the Country occupied by the Federal and Confederate Armies on the 18th and 21st of July, 1861. Taken by Capt. SAMUEL P. MITCHELL, of the First Virginia Regiment. Published by W. HARGRAVE WHITE' Richmond, Va. Lithographed by F. W. BORNEMANN' Charleston, S. C."

The sketch is an admirable representation of the topography of the country in the vicinity of the battle—the roads, water-courses and woods being all correctly placed. The positions of Gen. MCDOWELL'S troops are well represented, as is also the disposition of the rebel troops. It is an entire vindication of the admirable planning of the battle by Gen. MCDOWELL. It shows how completely the rebels were deceived as to the real point of attack, and how successfully they were driven from their position by HUNTER'S column, and that a total defeat was only prevented by the panic that seized our troops after 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

THE POTOMAC BLOCKADE.

The schooner sunk by the rebels on Sunday evening is said to be the *Three Sisters*, loaded with wood. She was not sunk by what is known as the rebel river batteries, but by field artillery drawn to the Virginia shore by the enemy at a point far below their fixed batteries on the Potomac. The guns were stationed nearly opposite Maryland Point, and the place where the schooner was sunk is known as "Boyd's Hole."

TREASURY NOTES ISSUED.

The Treasury Department has commenced issuing the notes dated Oct. 1, and has sent $1,000,000 of that issue to the Sub-Treasurer at New-York.

ARRIVAL OF GOV. CURTIN.

Gov. CURTIN arrived here last night, and was serenaded by the bands of three Pennsylvania regiments. To-morrow he will visit the Pennsylvania Reserve regiments, and extend his congratulations to Gen. ORD and his brigade for the gallantry they exhibited at the battle of Drancsville.

ANOTHER COURT-MARTIAL.

A Court-Martial is summoned for Monday in Gen. FRANKLIN'S Division, to try private MURPHY, of the Lincoln Cavalry, for the murder of Sergeant RILEY.

CHARGES PREFERRED.

Charges have been preferred by J. O. TOBIAS, of Philadelphia, who came to take testimony in the contested election case, against Col. MCLEAN, Lieut.-Col. MCLEAN, and Dr. SELTZER, of the Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, for disobedience of orders, &c., &c., in refusing to permit him to take testimony.

ELIAS HOWE,

The inventor of the sewing machine, has been visiting the camps of several of the regiments which he assisted in equipping, and was continuing his good work. He has been cordially received by the beneficiaries.

THE TRENT AFFAIR.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE ON THE SUBJECT.

Dispatches from Lord John Russell, M. Thouvenel, Secretary Seward and Lord Lyons.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams—Extract.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Nov. 30, 1861.

Charles Francis Adams, Esq., &c., &c., &c.:

SIR: Your confidential note of Nov. 15, not marked as a dispatch, has been submitted to the President, and I hasten to reply to it in time for the Wednesday's mail.

No Minister ever spoke or acted more wisely in a crisis which excited deep public solicitude, than you did on the occasion of the Lord Mayor's dinner.

We are impressed very favorably by Lord PALMERSTON'S conversation with you. You spoke the simple fact when you told him that the life of this insurrection is sustained by its hopes of recognition in Great Britain and in France. It would perish in ninety days if those hopes should cease. I have never, for a moment, believed that such a recognition could take place without producing immediately a war between the United States and all the recognizing Powers.

I have not supposed it possible that the British Government could fail to see this, and at the same time I have sincerely believed the British Government must, in its inmost heart, be as averse from such a war as I know this Government is.

I am sure that this Government has carefully avoided giving any cause of offence or irritation to Great Britain. But it has seemed to me that the British Government has been inattentive to the currents that seemed to be bringing the two countries into collision. * * * * *

I infer from Lord PALMERSTON'S remarks, that the British Government is now awake to the importance of averting possible conflict, and disposed to confer and act with earnestness to that end. If so we are disposed to meet them in the same spirit, as a nation chiefly of British lineage, sentiments, and sympathies, —a civilized and humane nation, a Christian people.

Since that conversation was held, Capt. WILKES, in the steamer *San Jacinto*, has boarded a British colonial steamer and taken from her deck two insurgents, who were proceeding to Europe on an errand of treason against their own country. This is a new incident, unknown to, and unforeseen, at least in its circumstances, by Lord PALMERSTON. It is to be met and disposed of by the two Gouernments, if possible, in the spirit to which I have adverted. Lord LYONS has prudently refrained from opening the subject to me, as he is, I presume, waiting instructions from home. We have done nothing on the subject, to anticipate the discussion; and we have not furnished you with any explanations. We adhere to that course now, because we think it more prudent that the ground taken by the British Government should be first made known to us here; and that the discussion, if there must be one, shall be had here. It is proper, however, that you should know one fact in the case, without indicating that we attach importance to it, namely, that in the capture of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL on board a British vessel, Capt. WILKES, having acted without any instructions from the Government, the subject is, therefore, free from the embarrassment which might have resulted, if the act had been specially directed by us.

I trust that the British Government will consider the subject in a friendly temper, and it may expect the best disposition on the part of this Government.

Although this is a confidential note, I shall not object to your reading it to Earl RUSSELL and Lord PALMERSTON, if you deem it expedient.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

FOREIGN OFFICE, Nov. 30, 1861.

The Lord Lyons, K. C. B., &c., &c., &c.:

MY LORD: Intelligence of a very grave nature has reached Her Majesty's Government.

This intelligence was conveyed officially to the knowledge of the Admiralty by Commander WILLIAMS, agent for mails on board the contract steamer *Trent*.

"It appears from the letter of Commander WILLIAMS, dated "Royal Mail contract packet *Trent*, at sea, Nov. 9," that the *Trent* left Havana on the 7th inst., with Her Majesty's Mails for England, having on board numerous passengers. Commander WILLIAMS states that, shortly after noon, on the 8th, a steamer having the appearance of a man-of-war, but not showing colors, was observed ahead. On nearing her at 1:15 P. M., she fired a round shot from her pivot gun across the *Trent* and showed American colors. While the *Trent* was approaching her slowly, the American vessel discharged a shell across the bows of the *Trent*, exploding half a cable's length ahead of her. The *Trent* then stopped, and an officer with a large armed guard of marines boarded her. The officer demanded a list of the passengers, and compliance with this demand being refused, the officer said he had orders to arrest Messrs. MASON, SLIDELL, MCFARLAND and EUSTIS, and that he had sure information of their being passengers in the *Trent*. While some parley was going on upon this matter, Mr. SLIDELL stepped forward and told the American officer that the four persons he had named were then standing before him. The Commander of the *Trent* and Commander WILLIAMS protested against the act of taking by force, out of the *Trent*, these four passengers, then under the protection of the British flag. But the *San Jacinto* was at that time only two hundred yards from the *Trent*, her ship's company at quarters, her ports open and tompions out. Resistance was, therefore, out of the question, and the four gentlemen before named were forcibly taken out of the ship. A further demand was made, that the commander of the *Trent* should proceed on board the *San Jacinto*, but he said he would not go, unless forcibly compelled likewise, and this demand was not insisted upon. It thus appears that certain individuals have been forcibly taken from on board a British vessel, the ship of a neutral Power, while such vessel was pursuing a lawful and innocent voyage—an act of violence which was an affront to the British flag and a violation of international law.

Her Majesty's Government having in mind the friendly relations which have long subsisted between Great Britain and the United States, are willing to believe that the United States naval officer who committed the aggression was not acting in compliance with any authority from his Government, or that if he conceived himself to be so authorized, he greatly misunderstood the instructions which he had received For the Government of the United States must be fully aware that the British Government could not allow such an affront to the National honor to pass without full reparation, and Her Majesty's Government are unwilling to believe that it could be the deliberate intention of the Government of the United States unnecessarily to force into discussion between the two Governments a question of so grave a character, and with regard to which the whole British nation would be sure to entertain such unanimity of feeling. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, trust that when this matter shall have been brought under the consideration of the Government of the United States, that Government will, of its own accord, offer to the British Government such redress as alone could satisfy the British Nation, namely: The liberation of the four gentlemen, and their delivery to your Lordship, in order that they may again be placed under British protection, and a suitable apology for the aggression which has been committed.

Should these terms not be offered by Mr. SEWARD you will propose them to him.

You are at liberty to read this dispatch to the Secretary of State, and if he shall desire it, you will give him a copy of it. I am, etc.,

RUSSELL.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1861.

The Right Honorable Lord Lyons, &c., &c., &c.:

MY LORD: Earl RUSSELL'S dispatch of Nov. 30, a copy of which you have left with me, at my request, is of the following effect, namely: That a letter of Com. WILLIAMS, dated Royal Mail contract packet boat *Trent*, at sea, Nov. 9, states that that vessel left Havana on the 7th of November, with Her Majesty's mails, for England, having on board numerous passengers. Shortly after noon, on the 8th of November the U. S. war steamer *San Jacinto*, Capt. WILKES, not showing colors, was observed ahead. That steamer, on being neared by the *Trent*, at 1¼ o'clock in the afternoon, fired a round shot from a pivot gun across her bows and showed American colors. While the *Trent* was approaching slowly toward the *San Jacinto*, she discharged a shell across the *Trent's* bows, which exploded at half a cable's length before her. The *Trent* then stopped, and an officer with a large armed guard of marines boarded her. The officer said he had orders to arrest Messrs. MASON, SLIDELL, MCFARLAND and EUSTIS, and had sure information that they were passengers in the *Trent*. While some parley was going on upon this matter, Mr. SLIDELL stepped forward and said to the American officer that the four persons he had named were standing before him. The Commander of the *Trent* and Commander WILLIAMS protested against the act of taking those four passengers out of the *Trent*, they then being under the protection of the British flag. But the *San Jacinto* was at this time only two hundred yards distant, her ship's company at quarters, her ports open, and tompions out, and so resistance was out of the question. The four persons, before named, were then forcibly taken out of the ship. A further demand was made that the commander of the *Trent* should proceed on board the *San Jacinto*, but he said he would not go unless forcibly compelled likewise, and this demand was not insisted upon. Upon this statement, Earl RUSSELL remarks that it thus appears that certain individuals have been forcibly taken from on board a British vessel, the ship of a neutral Power, while that vessel was pursuing a lawful and innocent voyage—an act of violence which was an affront to the British flag, and a violation of international law.

Earl RUSSELL next says that Her Majesty's Government, bearing in mind the friendly relations which have long subsisted between Great Britain and the United States, are willing to believe that the naval officer who committed this aggression was not acting in compliance with any authority from his Government; or, that if he conceived himself to be so authorized, he greatly misunderstood the instructions which he had received.

Earl RUSSELL argues that the United States must be fully aware that the British Government could not allow such an affront to the national honor to pass without full reparation, and they are willing to believe that it could not be the deliberate intention of the Government of the United States unnecessarily to force into discussion between the two Governments a question of so grave a character, and with regard to which the whole British nation would be sure to entertain such unanimity of feeling.

Earl RUSSELL, resting upon the statement and the argument which I have thus recited, closes with saying that Her Majesty's Government trust that when this matter shall have been brought under the consideration of the Government of the United States, it will, of its own accord, offer to the British Government such redress as alone could satisfy the British nation, namely, the liberation of the four prisoners taken from the *Trent* and their delivery to your Lordship, in order that they may again be placed under British protection; and a suitable apology for the aggression which has been committed. Earl RUSSELL finally instructs you to propose those terms to me, if I should not first offer them on the part of this Government.

This dispatch has been submitted to the President.

The British Government has rightly conjectured, what it is now my duty to state, that Capt. WILKES, in conceiving and executing the proceeding in question, acted upon his own suggestions of duty, without any direction, or instruction, or even foreknowledge of it, on the part of this Government. No directions had been given to him, or any other naval officer, to arrest the four persons named, or any of them, on the *Trent*, or on any other British vessel, or on any other neutral vessel, at the place where it occurred or elsewhere.

The British Government will justly infer from these facts that the United States not only have had no purpose, but even no thought, of forcing into discussion the question which has arisen, or any other which could affect in any way the sensibilities of the British nation.

It is true that a round-shot was fired by the *San Jacinto*, from her pivot-gun, when the *Trent* was distantly approaching. But as the facts have been reported to this Government, the shot was, nevertheless, intentionally fired in a direction so obviously divergent from the course of the *Trent* as to be quite as harmless as a blank shot, while it should be regarded as a signal. So, also, we learn that the *Trent* was not approaching the *San Jacinto* slowly when the shell was fired across her bows, but, on the contrary, the *Trent* was, or seemed to be, moving under a full head of steam, as if with a purpose to pass the *San Jacinto*.

We are informed, also, that the boarding officer (Lieut. FAIRFAX) did not board the *Trent* with a large armed guard, but he left his marines in his boat when he entered the *Trent*. He stated his instructions from Capt. WILKES to search for the four persons named in a respectful and courteous, though decided manner, and he asked the Captain of the *Trent* to show his passenger list, which was refused. The Lieutenant, as we are informed, did not employ absolute force in transferring the passengers, but he used just so much as was necessary to satisfy the parties concerned that refusal or resistance would be unavailing.

So also we are informed that the Captain of the *Trent* was not at any time, or in any way, required to go on board the *San Jacinto*.

These modifications of the case, as presented by Commander WILLIAMS, are based upon our official reports.

I have now to remind your Lordship of some facts which doubtlessly were omitted by Earl RUSSELL, with the very proper and becoming motive of allowing them to be brought into the case, on the part of the United States, in the way most satisfactory to this Government. These facts are that, at the time the transaction occurred, an insurrection was existing in the United States, which this Government was engaged in suppressing by the employment of land and naval forces; that, in regard to this domestic strife the United States considered Great Britain as a friendly Power, while she had assumed for herself the attitude of a neutral; and that Spain was considered in the same light, and had assumed the same attitude as Great Britain.

It had been settled by correspondence that the United States and Great Britain mutually recognized, as applicable to this local strife, these two articles of the Declaration made by the Congress of Paris in 1856, namely: That the neutral or friendly flag should cover enemy's goods, not contraband of war, and that neutral goods, not contraband of war, are not liable to capture under an enemy's flag. These exceptions of contraband from seizure, were a negative acceptance, by the parties, of the rule hitherto everywhere recognized as a part of the law of nations, that whatever is contraband is liable to capture and confiscation in all cases.

JAMES M. MASON and E. J. MCFARLAND are citizens of the United States, and residents of Virginia. JOHN SLIDELL and GEORGE EUSTIS are citizens of the United States and residents of Louisiana. It was well known at Havana, when these parties embarked on the *Trent*, that JAMES M. MASON was proceeding to England in the affected character of a Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James, under a pretended commission from JEFFERSON DAVIS, who had assumed to be President of the insurrectionary party in the United States, and E. J. MCFARLAND was going with him in a like unreal character of Secretary of Legation to the pretended mission.

JOHN SLIDELL, in similar circumstances, was going to Paris as a pretended Minister to the Emperor of the French, and GEORGE EUSTIS was the chosen Secretary of Legation for that simulated mission.

The fact that these persons had assumed such characters has been since avowed by the same JEFFERSON DAVIS, in a pretended message to an unlawful and insurrectionary Congress. It was, as we think, rightly presumed that these Ministers bore pretended credentials and instructions, and such papers are, in the law, known as dispatches. We are informed by our Consul at Paris, that these dispatches, having escaped the search of the *Trent*, were actually conveyed and delivered to emissaries of the insurrection in England.

Although it is not essential, yet it is proper to state, as I do also upon information and belief, that the owner and agent, and all the officers of the *Trent*, including the Commander, WILLIAMS, had knowledge of the assumed characters and purposes of the persons before named when they embarked on that vessel.

Your Lordship will now perceive that the case before us, instead of presenting a merely flagrant act of violence on the part of Capt. WILKES, as might well be inferred from the incomplete statement of it that went up to the British Government, was undertaken as a simple legal and customary belligerent proceeding by Capt. WILKES, to arrest and capture a neutral vessel engaged in carrying contraband of war for the use and benefit of the insurgents.

The question before us is, whether this proceeding was authorized by, and conducted according to, the law of nations. It involves the following inquiries:

1. Were the persons named, and their supposed dispatches, contraband of war?

2. Might Capt. WILKES lawfully stop and search the *Trent* for these contraband persons and dispatches?

3. Did he exercise that right in a lawful and proper manner?

4. Having found the contraband persons on board, and in presumed possession of the contraband dispatches, had he a right to capture the persons?

5. Did he exercise that right of capture in the manner allowed and recognized by the law of nations?

If all these inquiries shall be resolved in the affirmative, the British Government will have no claim for reparation.

I address myself to the first inquiry, namely:

Were the four persons mentioned, and their supposed dispatches, contraband?

Maritime law so generally deals, as its professors say, *in rem*, that is, with property, and so seldom with persons, that it seems a straining of the term contraband to apply it to them. But persons, as well as property, may become contraband, since the word means, broadly, "contrary to proclamation, prohibited, illegal, unlawful." All writers and judges pronounce naval or military persons in the service of the enemy, contraband. VATTEL says: "War allows us to cut off from an enemy all his resources, and to hinder him from sending ministers to solicit assistance." And Sir WILLIAM SCOTT says: "You may stop the Ambassador of your enemy on his passage." Dispatches are not less clearly contraband, and the bearers or couriers who undertake to carry them fall under the same condemnation.

A subtlety might be raised whether pretended Ministers of an usurping Power, not recognized as legal by either the belligerent or the neutral, could be held to be contraband. But it would disappear on being subjected to what is the true test in all cases, namely: the spirit of the law. Sir WILLIAM SCOTT, speaking of Civil Magistrates, who were arrested and detained as contraband, says: "It appears to me, on principle, to be but reasonable that, when it is of sufficient importance to the enemy that such persons should be sent out on the public service, at the public expense, it should afford equal ground of forfeiture against the vessel that may be let out for a purpose so intimately connected with the hostile operations."

I trust that I have shown that the four persons who who were taken from the *Trent* by Captain WILKES, and their dispatches, were contraband of war.

The second inquiry is, whether Capt. WILKES had a right by the law of nations to detain and search the *Trent*.

The *Trent*, though she carried mails, was a contract, or merchant vessel—a common carrier for hire. Maritime law knows only three classes of vessels—vessels of war, revenue vessels and merchant vessels. The *Trent* falls within the latter class. Whatever disputes have existed concerning a right of visitation or search in time of peace, none, it is supposed, has existed in modern times about the rights of a belligerent in time of war to capture contraband in neutral or even friendly merchant vessels, and of the right of visitation and search, in order to determine whether they are neutral, and are documented as such according to the law of nations. I assume in the present case, what, as I read British authorities, is regarded by Great Britain herself as true maritime law, that the circumstance that the *Trent* was proceeding from a neutral port to another neutral port does not modify the rights of the belligerent captor.

The third question is, whether Capt. WILKES exercised the right of search in a lawful and proper manner. If any doubt hung over this point, as the case was presented in the statement of it adopted by the British Government, I think it must have already passed away before the modifications of that statement which I have already submitted.

I proceed to the fourth inquiry, namely: Having found the suspected contraband of war on board the *Trent*, had Capt. WILKES a right to capture the same? Such a capture is the chief, if not the only, recognized object of the permitted visitation and search. The principle of the law is, that the belligerent exposed to danger may prevent the contraband persons or things from applying themselves or being applied to the hostile uses or purposes designed. The law is so very liberal in this respect that when contraband is found on board a neutral vessel, not only is the contraband forfeited, but the vessel which is the vehicle of its passage or transportation being tainted also becomes contraband, and is subjected to capture and confiscation.

Only the fifth question remains, namely: Did Capt. WILKES exercise the right of capturing the contraband in conformity with the law of nations?

It is just here that the difficulties of the case begin. What is the manner which the law of nations prescribes for disposing of the contraband when you have found and seized it on board of the neutral vessel? The answer would be easily found if the question were, What shall you do with the contraband vessel? You must take or send her into a convenient port and subject her to a judicial prosecution there in Admiralty, which will try and decide the questions of belligerency, neutrality, contraband and capture. So, again, you would promptly find the same answer if the question were, What is the manner of proceeding prescribed by the law of nations in regard to the contraband, if it be property or things of material, or pecuniary value?

But the question here concerns the mode of procedure in regard, not to the vessel that was carrying the contraband, nor yet to contraband things which worked the forfeiture of the vessel, but to contraband persons.

The books of law are dumb. Yet the question is as important as it is difficult. First, the belligerent captor has a right to prevent the contraband officer, soldier, sailor, minister, messenger, or courier, from proceeding in his unlawful voyage, and reaching the destined scene of his injurious service. But, on the other hand, the person captured may be innocent, that is, he may not be contraband. He therefore has a right to a fair trial of the accusation against him. The neutral State that has taken him under its flag, is bound to protect him, if he is not contraband, and is therefore entitled to be satisfied upon that important question. The faith of that State is pledged to his safety, if innocent, as its justice is pledged to his surrender, if he is really contraband. Here are conflicting claims, involving personal liberty, life, honor, and duty. Here are conflicting national claims, involving welfare, safety, honor and empire. They require a tribunal and a trial. The captors and the captured are equals; the neutral and the belligerent State are equals.

While the law authorities were found silent, it was suggested at an early day by this Government that you should take the captured persons into a convenient port, and institute judicial proceedings, there to try the controversy. But only courts of admiralty have jurisdiction in maritime cases, and these courts have formulas to try only claims to contraband chattels, but none to try claims concerning contraband persons. The courts can entertain no proceedings and render no judgment in favor of or against the alleged contraband men.

It was replied, all this is true; but you can reach in those Courts a decision which will have the moral weight of a judicial one by a circuitous proceeding. Convey the suspected vessel, into port, and try there the question whether the vessel is contraband. You can prove it to be so by proving the suspected men to be contraband, and the Court must then determine the vessel to be contraband. If the men are not contraband the vessel will escape condemnation. Still there is no judgment for or against the captured persons. But it was assumed that there would result from the determination of the Court concerning the vessel a legal certainty concerning the character of the men.

This course of proceeding seemed open to many objections. It elevates the incidental inferior private interest into the proper place of the main paramount public one, and possibly it may make the fortunes, the safety or the existence of a nation depend on the accidents of a merely personal and pecuniary litigation. Moreover, when the judgment of the Prize Court upon the lawfulness of the capture of the vessel is rendered, it really concludes nothing, and binds neither the belligerent State nor the neutral upon the great question of the disposition to be made of the captured contraband persons. That question is still to be really determined, if at all, by diplomatic arrangement or by war.

One may well express his surprise when told that the law of nations has furnished no more reasonable, practical and perfect mode than this of determining questions of such grave import between sovereign Powers. The regret we may feel on the occasion is nevertheless modified by the reflection that the difficulty is not altogether anomalous. Similar and equal deficiencies are found in every system of municipal law, especially in the system which exists in the greater portions of Great Britain and the United States. The title to personal property can hardly ever be resolved by a court without resorting to the fiction that the claimant has lost, and the possessor has found it; and the title to real estate is disputed by real litigants, under the names of imaginary persons. It must be confessed, however, that while all aggrieved nations demand, and all impartial ones concede, the need of some form of judicial process in determining the characters of contraband persons, no other form than the illogical and circuitous one thus described exists, nor has any other yet been suggested. Practically, therefore, the choice is between that judicial remedy, or no judicial remedy whatever.

If there be no judicial remedy, the result is that the question must be determined by the captor himself on the deck of the prize vessel. Very grave objections arise against such a course. The captor is armed, the neutral is unarmed. The captor is interested, prejudiced, and, perhaps, violent; the neutral, if truly neutral, is disinterested, subdued and helpless. The tribunal is irresponsible, while its judgment is carried into instant execution. The captured party is compelled to submit, though bound by no legal, moral, or treaty obligation to acquiesce. Reparation is distant and problematical, and depends at last on the justice, magnanimity, or weakness of the State in whose behalf and by whose authority the capture was made. Out of these disputes reprisals and wars necessarily arise, and these are so frequent and destructive that it may well be doubted whether this form of remedy is not a greater social evil than all that could follow if the belligerent right of search were universally renounced and abolished forever. But carry the case one step further. What if the State that has made the capture unreasonably refuse to hear the complaint of the neutral or to redress it? In that case, the very act of capture would be an act of war—of war begun without notice, and possibly entirely without provocation.

I think all unprejudiced minds will agree that, imperfect as the existing judicial remedy may be supposed to be, it would be, as a general practice, better to follow it than to adopt the summary one of leaving the decision with the captor, and relying upon diplomatic debates to review his decision. Practically it is a question of choice between Law, with its imperfections and delays, and War, with its evils and desolations.

Nor is it ever to be forgotten that neutrality, honestly and justly preserved, is always the harbinger of peace and therefore is the common interest of nations, which is only saying that it is the interest of humanity itself.

At the same time, it is not to be denied that it may sometimes happen that the judicial remedy will become impossible—as by the shipwreck of the prize vessel, or other circumstances which excuse the captor from sending or taking her into port for confiscation. In such a case the right of the captor to the custody of the captured persons, and to dispose of them, if they are really contraband, so as to defeat their unlawful purposes, cannot reasonably be denied. What rule shall be applied in such a case? Clearly the captor ought to be required to show that the failure of the judicial remedy results from circumstances beyond his control, and without his fault. Otherwise he would be allowed to derive advantage from a wrongful act of his own.

In the present case Capt. WILKES, after capturing the contraband persons, and making prize of the *Trent* in what seems to us a perfectly lawful manner, instead of sending her into port, released her from the capture, and permitted her to proceed with her whole cargo upon her voyage. He thus effectually prevented the judicial examination which might otherwise have occurred. If now the capture of the contraband persons, and the capture of the contraband vessel, are to be regarded, not as two separable or distinct transactions under the law of nations, but as one transaction, one capture only, then it follows that the capture in this case was left unfinished or was abandoned. Whether the United States have a right to retain the chief public benefits of it, namely, the custody of the captured persons, on proving them to be contraband, will depend upon the preliminary question whether the leaving of the transaction unfinished was necessary, or whether it was unnecessary, and, therefore, voluntary. If it was necessary, Great Britain, as we suppose, must of course waive the defect, and the consequent failure of the judicial remedy. On the other hand, it is not seen how the United States can insist upon her waiver of that judicial remedy, if the defect of the capture resulted from an act of Capt. WILKES, which would be a fault on their own side.

Capt. WILKES has presented to this Government his reasons for releasing the *Trent*. "I forebore to seize her," he says, "in consequence of my being so reduced in officers and crew, and the derangement it would cause innocent persons, there being a large number of passengers who would have been put to great loss and inconvenience, as well as disappointment from the interruption it would have caused them in not being able to join the steamer from St. Thomas to Europe. I therefore concluded to sacrifice the interest of my officers and crew in the prize, and suffered her to proceed after the detention necessary to effect the transfer of those Commissioners, considering I had obtained the important end I had in view, and which affected the interest of our country and interrupted the action of that of the Confederates."

I shall consider, first, how these reasons ought to affect the action of this Government; and, secondly, how they ought to be expected to affect the action of Great Britain. The reasons are satisfactory to this Government so far as Capt. WILKES is concerned. It could not desire that the *San Jacinto*, her officers and crew, should be exposed to danger and loss by weakening their number to detach a prize crew to go on board the *Trent*. Still less could it disavow the humane motive of preventing inconveniences, losses and perhaps disasters, to the several hundred innocent passengers found on board the prize vessel. Nor could this Government perceive any ground for questioning the fact that these reasons, though apparently incongruous, did operate in the mind of Capt. WILKES, and determined him to release the *Trent*. Human actions generally proceed upon mingled and sometimes conflicting motives. He measured the sacrifices which this decision would cost. It manifestly, however, did not occur to him that beyond the sacrifice of the private interests (as he calls them) of his officers and crew, there might also possibly be a sacrifice even of the chief and public object of his capture, namely, the right of his Government to the custody and disposition of the captured persons. This Government cannot censure him for this oversight. It confesses that the whole subject came unforeseen upon the Government, as doubtless it did upon him. Its present convictions on the point in question, are the result of deliberate examination and deduction now made, and not of any impressions previously formed.

Nevertheless, the question now is, not whether Capt. WILKES is justified in what he did, but what is the present view of the Government as to the effect of what he has done. Assuming now, for argument's sake only, that the release of the *Trent*, if voluntary, involved a waiver of the claims of the Government to hold the captured persons, the United States could, in that case, have no hesitation in saying that the act which has thus already been approved by the Government, must be allowed to draw its legal consequence after it. It is of the very nature of a gift, or a charity, that the giver cannot, after the exercise of his benevolence is past, recall or modify its benefits.

We are thus brought directly to the question whether we are entitled to regard the release of the *Trent* as involuntary, or whether we are obliged to consider that it was voluntary. Clearly, the release would have been involuntary had it been made solely upon the first ground assigned for it by Capt. WILKES, namely, a want of a sufficient force to send the prize vessel into port for adjudication. It is not the duty of a captor to hazard his own vessel in order to secure a judicial examination to the captured party. No large prize crew, however, is legally necessary, for it is the duty of the captured party to acquiesce and go willingly before the tribunal to whose jurisdiction it appeals. If the captured party indicate purposes to employ means of resistance, which the captor cannot with probable safety to himself overcome, he may properly leave the vessel to go forward, and neither she nor the State she represents can ever afterward justly object that the captor deprived her of the judicial remedy to which she was entitled.

But the second reason assigned by Captain WILKES for releasing the *Trent* differs from the first. At best therefore, it must be held that Captain WILKES, as he explains himself, acted from combined sentiments of prudence and generosity, and so that the release of the prize vessel was not strictly necessary or involuntary.

Secondly—How ought we to expect these explanations by Captain WILKES of his reasons for leaving the capture incomplete, to affect the action of the British Government. The observation upon this point which first occurs is, that Captain WILKES' explanations were not made to the authorities of the captured vessel. If made known to them, they might have approved and taken the release, upon the condition of waiving a judicial investigation of the whole transaction, or they might have refused to accept the release upon that condition.

But the case is one not with them, but with the British Government. If we claim that Great Britain ought not to insist that a judicial trial has been lost because we voluntarily released the offending vessel out of consideration for her innocent passengers, I do not see how she is to be bound to acquiesce in the decision which was thus made by us, without necessity on our part, and without knowledge of conditions or consent on her own. The question between Great Britain and ourselves, thus stated, would be a question, not of right and of law, but of favor to be conceded by her to us in return for favors shown by us to her, of the value of which favors on both sides we ourselves shall be the judge. Of course, the United States could have no thought of raising such a question in any case.

I trust I have shown, to the satisfaction of the British Government, by a very simple and natural statement of the facts, and analysis of the law applicable to them, that this Government has neither meditated, nor practiced, nor approved any deliberate wrong in the transaction to which they have called its attention; and, on the contrary, that what has happened has been simply an inadvertency, consisting in a departure, by the naval officer, free from any wrongful motive, from a rule uncertainly established, and probably, by the several parties concerned, either imperfectly understood, or entirely unknown. For this error, the British Government has a right to expect the same reparation that we, as an independent State, should expect from Great Britain or from any other friendly nation, in a similar case.

I have not been unaware that, in examining this question, I have fallen into an argument for what ap

[Continued on Eighth Page.]

ADDITIONAL FROM EUROPE.

THE MAILS BY THE NOVA SCOTIAN.

Continued Discussion of the Trent Affair.

Views of Members of Parliament.

Pacific Tone of the British Provincial Press.

SENSE OF THE PARISIAN JOURNALS.

THE EXPEDITION TO MEXICO

The mails by the *Nova Scotian*, which sailed from Liverpool on the 12th inst., and called at Londonderry on the 13th, were received here yesterday morning.

Our files thus received are one day later than those by the *Arago* and *Edinburgh*.

Later advices, however, have been forwarded from the *Niagara*, touching at Halifax.

The Captain of an American ship writes from Greenock to the Glasgow *Herald*: "Can you inform me if there is any discipline on board of her Majesty's ship *Hogue*? While towing past her yesterday, a number of men were on the forecastle, and well aft. Their language to me was very insulting; owing, I suppose, to the flag I had at my peak—the Stars and Stripes."

IMPORTANT FROM FRANCE.

Condemnation of the the Act of Capt. Wilkes—Excitement Among the French—Tone of the Press—European Ridicule of American Slowness—Jeff. Davis' Message, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

The first news of the capture of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL hardly produced more astonishment at Paris, than does now the indifference of the American people and Press at the results likely to grow out of the act. While all Europe is boiling over with excitement, and while we are every day the witnesses of the colossal preparations of England for a war with the United States, the American people have heard the decision of their judges, and have settled down quietly in the belief that there has been no harm done, and as if that were the end of the affair. The expression we hear at every turn is: "*Grand Dieu! Quel reveil attend ces pauvres gens-là!*"

What a waking up in effect there will be! The English ultimatum will arrive at New-York in a day or two from the date of this writing, and one involuntarily covers his ears with his hands to escape the noise of the shock. The French are unanimous in condemning the act of Capt. WILKES, in setting himself up as an Admiralty Judge on the high seas, as a *palpable* violation of the rights of neutrals, and they cannot understand how the Americans can so quietly go to sleep over the question, while the thunders of John Bull are rolling across the ocean.

The excitement here continues at white heat, and will so continue until the reply of the Washington Cabinet to the English ultimatum is known. The Press generally continues its denunciations of the act of Capt. WILKES, as unlawful and foolish in the highest degree. What is worse for us, it has created a strong conviction that the men now charged with the destinies of the American people are wanting in capacity to fulfill the duties of their position. This conviction, once fixed in the European mind, will be difficult to eradicate, and from it may flow many evils. To the French mind, it seems one of the most elementary of all principles, that when a nation is thus weakened and distracted by a civil war—when it has on its hands a noble and a glorious struggle, but one which requires all its strength—it has no business going about seeking new elements of weakness. Instead of trying to array the rest of the world against them, they ought to try to conciliate their good wishes; instead of going beyond the limits of international law, in order to experiment on the forbearance of foreign nations, they ought to keep inside these limits.

Two or three French journals have, within a day or two, modified slightly their hostility to the United States on this question, and now declare that the informality in the seizure of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL ought not to be the cause of a war; that, while apologizing for the personal affront, the United States ought to demand a convention for regulating finally the international points at issue, and that France will support the Americans in this demand.

But two journals thus far—the *Patrie* and the *Presse*—have sustained the theory that the French Government ought to aid England in the war against the United States. These journals urge in support of their doctrine that the act of the American Government is an insult offered in common to the flag of all neutrals, that it is the infringement of a right common to all, and that all ought to protect—with arms, if necessary—the inviolability of the high seas. But they go further than this, especially the *Patrie*, and intimate that France ought to join England, in order to gather up her share of the crumbs that are sure to fall in the general shipwreck of the Union. In other words, these papers believe that England is desirous of converting the Cotton States into a colony from which she will reap immense advantage, and from which she will exclude France if she does not join in the work. So you see what I told you nine months ago is coming true: the European nations are preparing to pick up the crumbs that are to fall from the general shipwreck, and we see now, more than ever, the necessity of giving more attention, more intelligent attention, to our foreign policy, than has characterized that of the present Administration. What we want is, less talent and more judgment, less brilliancy and mere practical sense.

Of course we do not believe that the period of shipwreck has yet arrived, or that it will arrive. But our foreign relations have been so miserably directed at home that Europe regards us as on the eve of this deplorable result, and has but few regrets to utter. And if they believe such an event imminent, not only is their respect diminished, but their cupidity and their desire for spoils are augmented. It would have been an easy matter to have made friends of the European nations from the start, if a proper direction had been given to the affairs of the State Department; they asked nothing better than to be friendly, but now the rebellion must be fought out with the foreign nations estranged and distrustful, and ready to take advantage of any turn in the wheel of fortune against us.

It is time to get rid of that notion about the "rotten monarchies of Europe," and about the power of bread in compelling peace. The monarchies of Europe can always go to war; they are plethoric with men and money when the honor, supposed or real, of the nation, demands it, and as for bread, suffering is the normal condition of the masses, and a little more or less makes no difference. For example, the rottenest of the "rotten monarchies" of Europe, is Austria; people are always saying that Austria is bankrupt and powerless, and yet she has always ready to take the field one of the largest armies in Europe, and now mocks at the tardy operations of the National army. The army officers of these "rotten monarchies" absolutely pity us; their journals are full of ridicule, and the print-shop windows are filled with caricatures of our volunteers and their officers. It is a pity that, with such elements of greatness and power as we really possess, we should permit our foreign relations to degenerate into such a depth as this.

We heard M. GARNIER-PAGES last evening protesting energetically against a war between the two great liberal nations as a scandal on democracy and humanity. Moreover, he could not understand the necessity of it; for here were two great nations about to rush headlong into a terrible war on a point of honor so obscure that they were both obliged to call on their lawyers to decide whether there really had been an insult passed or not!

The Message of JEFFERSON DAVIS has been published by all the journals of Paris, as you will have observed, and provokes comments exactly in accordance with the prefixed opinions of each on the great question. The *Constitutionnel*, which is against us, could not fail to remark, however, that the word "slave" or "slavery" does not occur once in the document, and that Mr. DAVIS there defines the official character of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL. The *Débats* perceives that the Message is written more for European than for American eyes, and it pronounces JEFF. DAVIS' appeals to Providence in favor of such a cause as that in which he is engaged, as downright sacrilege.

Archbishop HUGHES preached in English on Sunday last, at the Church of St. Roch, in this city. What was singular, in view of the fact that his audience was almost exclusively American and Protestant, he preached on the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

Mr. THURLOW WEED has gone to London. Gen. SCOTT remains at Paris, but talks of going home if there is a war with England. MALAKOFF.

THE AFFAIR OF THE TRENT.

Further Indications of British Opinion.

Speeches of Members of Parliament on the Crisis.

MR. HORSMAN, M. P., AT STROUD.

Mr. HORSMAN, M. P., addressed his constituents at Stroud, on the 10th. The right honorable gentleman referred to the principal questions discussed during the past session, and expressed his approval of the policy of non-intervention pursued by the Government with respect to the affairs of foreign nations. With respect to the Hungarian question, he said: "I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion, which the friends of Austria ought to regard, that unless Austria does by some means or other conciliate her Hungarian subjects, the first shot fired in Europe may bring about such a state of circumstances that any man, a few years hence, looking at the map of Europe for the empire of Austria, may haply look in vain." Passing on to the affairs of America, he expressed his conviction that the truth with regard to the latter was as stated by Earl RUSSELL—"that the North were fighting for empire and the South for independence." He continued: We know that the Northerns have been swelling almost to bursting with the contemplation of the future grandeur of the great American republic embracing one whole continent, with a population so vast, and so compact in its structure, that it would give the law to all the other nations of the world. I have never met with an American, with any traveler or writer who could give any assignable limit to an American's vision of the future grandeur of his country. He has looked upon it in commerce, in arts, in arms, in everything that promotes civilization, as the future government and guide of the whole world. On the other hand, the Southerns say that they desire immediate independence, and that they prefer independence to the yoke of partnership in future grandeur. They say that they are strong enough and large enough to maintain themselves. They argue that they lose more than they gain by their connection with the North, and that, in abandoning the North, they are merely giving effect to the same principle which the founders of the republic established when they repudiated their connection with England. [Hear, hear.] The war proceeds, and in a short time it is shown that the English Government were right in their estimate of the power and the prospects of the contending parties. The South has proved itself able to hold its own, and the North has shown not only military failures, but a complete break-down of civil government. There is not a security that was established for liberty of speech, writing, or motion, which has not been swept away; and there is not amongst the most despotic Governments of Europe one spot on the earth in which every constitutional right has been so entirely suspended, and in which the freedom of individuals is so utterly destroyed, as in the States of North America. [Hear, hear.] An opinion has been expressed that Democracy in America has failed. I am not desirous of going into that question now, but I may say that the result of what has been going on shows that the military enterprise of the North has so far proved a failure, and that its civil Administration is at this moment utterly disorganized, and has completely broken down. [Hear, hear.] The Cabinet of the North are in a state of great difficulty and embarrassment. The population have been so harrassed that they are almost in a state of desperation. They admit the war must be a long one. And then the question occurs, what is it for? *It is obvious that the Union is not easily to be restored; and even if it could, we all know that a Union cemented by blood will not be the old Union founded by the original fathers of the Republic.* It is not, therefore, the question of the restoration of the Union. It is rather a question as to the terms of separation, as to the boundary to be established. That is a question for arbitration that could be more easily carried out before more blood is shed, before more exasperation is caused, than after a long, pernicious and calamitous war. [Hear, hear.] He next came to the affair of the *Trent*. The Law-Officers of the Crown have advised Her Majesty that the act complained of is a breach of international law, and, according to some semi-official statements which have been published, the Government have sent a dispatch to Lord LYONS, laying down the terms on which he is instructed to demand reparation from the Cabinet at Washington; and I believe there are two characteristics of that message which are generally acceptable to Europe. The first is, that the demand is said to have been made with great firmness; and the second is, *that it is said to be couched in terms the most conciliatory, so as to give the American Government every possible opening to recede with honor, and not imposing upon them the slightest humiliation.* [Hear, hear.] I believe that the proceedings of the Government have been approved of from one end of the kingdom to the other, and I believe it is the consciousness of the people that the right course has been pursued and steadily persisted in, that has produced the calm which pervades the whole community. [Hear.] *So far as our interests and sympathies are concerned, they would go with the South.* When the war first broke out, all our sympathies were ready to enlist themselves with the North, because they believed the cause of the North was that of emancipation; and it was only when we found that they were ready to compound with Slavery, to perpetuate Slavery, to combine all the profits of Slavery with all the advantages of professed abolition, that the reaction took place, and that the English public determined to observe that strict neutrality which to this moment has never been departed from. There was a danger, in the event of war breaking out, that we should be made participators in much we should disapprove, but his sympathies must go with the party that is most moderate, and the most ready for the conclusion of an early peace. [Cheers.] There is one plea the force of which we must all admit; the weakness of the North is not admitted; on the contrary, they are ready to push at the South, dispose of England, and help themselves to Canada. [Laughter.] We must remember that the abuse of England—the menacing of England, has not only been a habit but a profitable trade in America. The newspapers are sold by it, the members of Congress get their elections by it, the Secretaries of State are raised to office by it, the Presidents mount the highest steps in the ladder by it. It is the whole political capital on which men thrive—perpetually reviling and challenging England. We have disregarded it, as we could well afford to do; but it is our duty, in the interests of America, as well as in the interests of Europe, to see that she is brought to her senses, and we must teach her that if she wishes to be respected, that respect must be founded on her own regard for international obligations, her own respect for civilized law, and that she is not to be respected in proportion to her own menacing and bluster. [Cheers.] *It is my ardent and sincere belief that there will be no war. In the first place, it is not the interest of the Northern States to go to war.* What are they to do if they go to war? At present they are occupied altogether in the South. But they say, "We are dealing with the South. We may lose territory there, but we shall compensate ourselves by taking Canada. But what do the Canadians say to that? They say they live in too great a proximity to the great Republic, and have formed a very correct notion of the value of its connection. They think the English monarchy is far more respectable. And there is another argument. If the Americans are unwise enough to show themselves over the frontiers of Canada, they may probably meet with rather a hot reception; and they will soon find some difference between a war with Canada and a war with the Southern States. After an engagement with Canadian regiments, when the Northern heroes run away, they will be followed over the frontier; and, instead of the States annexing Canada, it may happen that Canada may annex a goodly portion of the States themselves. [Cheers.] Well, then, what are they to do by sea? In the last war the American privateer was a very dangerous element to be considered, and people say you will have the American privateers again. But where are they to sail from? The whole South seaboard of the States, which were their great harbors both of exit and refuge, will be closed against them. No Northern privateers can sail from these harbors, and if one enters it will be captured. The whole of the ports of the European Powers are closed against privateers, and there are only two or three harbors which the Americans have, which can be easily blockaded, so that any attempt at privateering would be checkmated. [Hear.] I believe that when it is not the interest of America to go to war with us, it may also be shown to them that it is consistent with their character and honor to remain at peace. [Hear, hear.] I believe that these two motives combined will make them ready to meet half way the judicious concessions asked by England. But whether there was peace or war, he believed there was an end of the Union, and the separation would not only deal a death blow to Slavery, by rendering Fugitive Slave Laws impossible, but would also give strength to the Northern States. They would start up a new empire. The disasters of the present day having opened their eyes to the unsafe parts of the Constitution, they would form a stronger Government, when the few would govern and the many obey, instead of every man governing and no man obeying. [Hear, hear.] If war, he concluded, is to decide these painful and unhappy difficulties, there never was a time when England was in such a condition as to make the results of that war both brief and certain. Commercially, our position is sound. Financially it is so good, that while other nations are endeavoring to extricate themselves from the prospect of bankruptcy, the only quarrel with the House of Commons is, whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer shall put on or take off another million of taxes.

A resolution, expressing confidence in the right hon. gentleman, was carried with a few dissentients.

A COMMENTARY ON MR. HORSMAN'S SPEECH.

From the London Times.

It is instructive to compare the prospects of America, as sketched in the speech before us, with the visions depicted in another speech to which public attention has recently been directed. Mr. HORSMAN augurs well of the future, but his aspirations are modest, practicable and reasonable. He does not look for any prodigious federation, or any Democratic Republic coextensive with one of the continents of the world. He conceives, indeed, that "by the law or nature all over-grown bodies must break down," and that there is nothing in democratic institutions which can exempt a State from the common destiny. If he judges favorably of the prospect before the Northern Republic, it is because he hopes that its institutions may be rather corrected than sublimed by the present trial, and that, instead of "freedom everywhere and equality everywhere," according to the American acceptance of such terms, rational habits of subordination and submission may be introduced among the newly-organized people. "The disasters," says he, "of the present day having opened their eyes to the unsafe parts of their Constitution, they will form a stronger Government, when the law will not be the American law, but the old English law—when the few will govern and the many obey, instead of every man governing, and no man obeying." There is considerable sagacity in this view of the case. The Americans, in fact, are but passing through that kind of trial which is said to benefit all men except those who are deaf to teaching. Hitherto, as Mr. HORSMAN truly says, the people of the Union have been privileged to do what was permitted to no other people. They enjoyed a political license to conduct themselves as they chose, and many an act which would have caused a war if committed by others was passed over forbearingly when committed by them. The consequence was such a blind and irrational arrogance of temper, and such an impatience of government and control, as have now set them at deadly feud among themselves. If they read this lesson aright they will certainly learn to modify their views of Republican rights as well as of Republican destinies; nor do we think that Democracy will be any the worse for finding that it is liable to the same penalties which visit excesses under any other institutions. After all, the lesson read to the citizens of the Union will not be by comparison a hard one. They will only learn that their lot is not, as they had fancied, exempt from checks and burdens. *The worst that can come is that the people of the New World will have been taught to give and take, like the people of the old. They must be content to see others living near them with institutions of their own, to incur the trouble of settling and protecting frontiers, to practise such moderation of policy as may prevent quarrels, and to understand that the people cannot always have their own way.* The advantage of these simple lessons will more than compensate them, Mr. HORSMAN thinks, for the division of territory and the loss of Imperial power, and he prophesies that out of all this collapse and chaos we shall see a new State "with a new future before it, with a higher intelligence, with a sounder morality, with a purer patriotism." These bold predictions must be judged by the event, but they certainly contain nothing which ought to make them unacceptable to the Americans themselves.

MR. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD AT BURY.

The annual show of fat stock, in connection with the Horsham market, took place in that town on the 11th, when an unusually large and creditable exhibition of stock took place. In the evening a dinner was held at the Black Horse, at which Mr. W. R. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD, M. P., presided.

The usual loyal toasts having been duly honored, the Chairman in proposing the health of "The Army, Navy and Volunteers," said: "If this toast has always been well received in this room, and always meets with cordial receptance in every assembly of Englishmen when there is every hope that tranquility will continue, it will not be the less well received now, when unfortunately it is possible that our exertions will be required to maintain the honor and dignity of the country. [Cheers.] I am sure of this—that there is not a man in this room—there is not, indeed, a man in this country—*who would not deplore, as a national calamity, our being forced to go to war to assert the rights and honor of the country.* [Hear, hear.] This does not arise from any fear of war. Thank God! Old England is strong enough, and she is rich enough, to hold her own, or her enemies who they may. [Cheers.] Nor is it necessary for us to go to war for glory. Old England has enough of that. But I believe that there is, among all classes and all ranks, a general wish to avoid war if possible. [Hear, hear.] We all know the burdens which it imposes upon the people—we know the interruption which it causes to our trade and commerce—we know, also, the grief and distress which it sometimes spreads among private families around us; and, above all, I believe there is in this country a still higher feeling—a conviction that a war which is not necessary for the honor and for the interests of the country—a war instituted merely for ambition or for glory—is not only a political mistake, but is also a National crime. [Cheers.] And therefore I am sure that I speak the sentiments of all when I say that it will be with the deepest pain that we draw the sword, if, unhappily, we are forced to do so. We love peace, but there is something that we love even more, and that is, the maintenance of the National honor. ["Hear, hear," and cheers.] And I am sure of this, that even in the interests of peace, peace is not best secured by concessions that are not due concessions, and which are inconsistent with the honor and dignity of the country. [Hear, hear.] In private life it is not the bully who goes through life with respect, neither is it the man who seeks by concession and by yielding to everybody, and by being put down by everybody, to pass what he calls a quiet life. [Hear, hear.] It is the man who, determined to take no liberties with others, is equally determined that no liberties shall be taken with him. [Loud cheers.] And what is true in private life is true in politics. Of this I feel assured, that there is that spirit throughout the land that if, unhappily, we are driven to war, there will be but one unanimous feeling in every rank of life. *We may hope—and I for one do hope—that by sensible concessions on the one side, and by a generous forbearance upon the other, it is possible that peace may be maintained;* but if that hope should be falsified, then I feel there is that spirit in England that will insure the full and ample vindication of our rights and honor. [Hear, hear.] Whatever may be our regret at the result of what has now been going on for some time, of this I am sure, and have the most unhesitating confidence in, that the honor of the country will be supported by Lord PALMERSTON, who has never been wanting in the vindication of the national rights. [Loud cheers.] And side by side with that unhesitating belief, I have the certain knowledge and confidence that in such a course, however much we may differ upon other subjects, Lord PALMERSTON will receive the unhesitating and unflinching support of those who, upon other subjects, may be opposed to him. [Cheers.] Under these circumstances, gentlemen, I have no anxiety as to the result. On Saturday next the first battalion of the Guards for foreign service sails on board the steamship *Persia* for the shores of Canada—[great cheering]—and we well know that the flower of our nobility and gentry are the officers of that corps, and that they are considered the fortunate and lucky ones, who are selected to vindicate the honor of the country. As to the navy, I believe there is not one here who has not read, and has not felt his heart throb as he has done so—the letters and addresses of the naval reserve forces from our outports, who have voluntarily come forward, and in the simplest language, have said that they are ready at a moment's notice to shed their heart's blood in the defence of their Queen and country. Fortunately, and happily, the volunteers will not be required to make any such sacrifice as that, but I am satisfied that whatever sacrifice they are called upon to make, they will cheerfully make; and if every soldier be removed from these shores, the force of volunteers, with their courage, their spirit, and their unanimity, is sufficient to insure that the homes and hearths of Englishmen will be safe as ever. [Cheers.] Therefore, gentlemen, I know that you will do full honor to this toast: *The Army, Navy, and Volunteers.* [Loud cheers.]

MR. FREDERICK PEEL AT BURY

On the 11th inst., the Right Honorable F. PEEL addressed his constituents in the Theatre Royal, Bury, which is capable of holding 1,500 people, and which was crowded in every corner, many persons not being able to obtain admission.

In the absence of O. WALKER, Esq., who was prevented by indisposition from being present, the chair was occupied by R. WALKER, Esq., who made a few introductory observations, and then introduced Mr. PEEL to the meeting.

Mr. F. PEEL, who was received with enthusiastic cheers, after congratulating the audience on their being permitted to look each other in the face, and referring to several of the subjects which had occupied the attention of Parliament during the last session, including that having reference to the subject of education, the revised code, the bankrupt act, &c., went on to say that these were of minor importance when compared with what might now be termed the great question of the day. He said this was a time of great anxiety and suspense arising from the present state of our relationship with America. A message had gone forth from this country to America, the reply to which would bring the stupendous issue of peace or war. The state of things already existing in that great country had operated very injuriously upon our industry; and although they were suffering to a very great extent from the same cause, the effect upon our industry was felt more keenly. The two parties of North and South were struggling with each other with a relentlessness and ferocity which had been denounced as overstepping the rights of civilized warfare; but the evils would be ten thousand times greater if it should have the result of drawing us into conflict with them. It had been said that we wanted to pick a quarrel with them; but, so far from that, it was known that we had submitted to acts of rudeness from them which we should not have tolerated from any other nation, because they were brethren. He expressed a fear, however, that our patience had been misunderstood, that our forbearance had been set down to wrong motives, and that they had done to us as they would not have ventured to do to other nations not so strong as ours, from the conviction that they would not have been treated with the same forbearance; and it was evident that means must be adopted to prevent them from a continuation of such a course of conduct. We must, however, remember that in reference to the act of which we had most reason to complain, we did not know that it was the act of the Government. There have been some excited meetings on the seaboard manifesting considerable approval of the act, but they may regard them as not knowing what they did. By a natural law an adverse state of things worked its own cure, and in the present case he had no doubt good would come out of evil. He then referred to the attention which had been paid to the growth of cotton in India, and showed that, if India should ultimately have only a share with America in the produce of cotton, it would be a good which would more than compensate us for the present transition. *On the authority of President Davis, he asserted that there never again could be union between the North and the South. The North were fighting for dominion and for union; but whether they were fighting for the abolition of Slavery, was a question which yet lay in deep obscurity.* He believed that the weapon which was capable of achieving that great object was in the possession of the Northern States. As to the motive which was prompting the South, there could be no doubt that they are fighting for Slavery; *but that was not the only motive, for he was convinced that they were fighting for self-government also.* He stated that our true position, in reference to America, was that of strict neutrality, and this view had been carried out by this country to such an extent that it had excited the wonder of other nations, who knew that the blockade of the Southern ports was not a strict one, and that, therefore, we were not bound to respect it. We had been blamed by both North and South, who took opposite views of our conduct, and at length their conduct to us had assumed such a shape that we could not in honor remain inactive any longer. We were now anxiously waiting for a reply to the message from this country, and it would be for us then to consider what course it was our duty to take. It was not because we were not then strong enough to resist; and if we were now tempted beyond forbearance, it would be seen that England would never be stronger than when acting in self-defence.

At the conclusion of the honorable gentleman's address, a vote of confidense was passed with loud acclamations.

MR. H. BRAND AT LEWES.

At the dinner which followed the Lewes Fat Stock Show, on the 10th, the Earl of Chichester presided, his immediate supporters being the Hon. H. BRAND, M. P., and Mr. BLENCOWE, M. P., the other member for Lewes. The health of the other borough members having been proposed, Mr. BRAND said: One hardly met a man who did not put the question, "Is there to be a war with America?" That question was not to be answered by England, but by America. [Hear.] And if any one could tell him whether the American Government, in their councils, were guided by passion or by reason, he would then be able to say whether there would be war or peace. [Hear, hear.] If the councils of the American Government were guided by reason, we should have peace; if these councils were guided by passion, we should have war. [Hear, hear.] *Of this he was quite sure, that England regarded with the most friendly feeling the people of the United States.* They looked at the civil war between the States themselves as a great calamity. They would look upon a war between England and America as a greater calamity. [Hear, hear.] But the greatest calamity of all would be national dishonor. [Great cheering.] That England could not submit to. [Cheers.] Peace was the greatest blessing on the earth, and we ought to make great sacrifices for it; but forbearance had its limits. [Loud cheers.] Peace, although a great blessing, may be bought too dear. He had had a great deal of intercourse with Americans. They had friendly feelings towards England, as England had towards America. But unfortunately, there was a small section in America of noisy and excited politicians, who, having nothing to lose, might wish to involve the two countries in a war. [Hear, hear.] Heaven grant that they might not have the upper hand! Heaven grant that peace might be maintained between these two great nations. [Cheers.]

Mr. BLENCOWE coincided in the expressions of Mr. BRAND with regard to the American question.

MR. MILLER AT LEITH.

Mr. MILLER, M. P., addressed a meeting of his constituents at Leith, on Tuesday, the 10th. The honorable gentleman, alluding to the critical state of our relations with America, said: It has long been acknowledged in the States that a cry of war with England was the surest means of gaining political capital and paving the way to the Presidential chair. And this cry at last became so common that we actually began to think little of it, and treated it as a mere vulgar frivolity on the part of the mob, trusting, as we were always assured we might do, to the destinies of the Republic being in safer hands in case of need. But that retiring and influential class, of which we have heard so much as existing in the States, appears to have been altogether mythical, or at least utterly powerless to have stopped that retrograde legislation and practical injustice on the part of majorities which, at least, may be said to have been greatly instrumental in bringing about the ruin of their country. We must, therefore, now come to the conclusion, that we have actually escaped by a very narrow chance being at war with the States, on one or more of the occasions of these frequent outbursts of unfriendly feeling towards this country on the part of a braggart people, who, without any experience of the consequences of real warfare, have at length rushed headlong against each other, in utter contempt of the proffered mediation of almost every European Power, and have brought upon themselves a series of calamities which, I hope, will result in eventual good, by teaching them that little is to be gained by a burlesque political freedom, while their commercial policy becomes every day more obstructive and hostile to other countries, and now truly may be said to constitute a blot on the enlightenment of the age in which we live. And should we unfortunately be dragged into a war by the Government at Washington fathering the gross insult which has been offered to our flag, the question of separation will soon be decided by a short blockade of the North, and *we shall be pretty sure of compensation for the expenses incurred, through a largely-increased trade in manufactured goods with the States of the South.*

INDICATIONS FROM THE PRESS.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.

From the Warrington Guardian.

The point in dispute is one of law, and it becomes a great nation to show sufficient dignity to keep from scolding until both sides are heard. *We may be told that the American captain took the law into his own hands; but that is begging the question. We have done the same, time after time, and should it be proved that, as that was fifty years ago, it is not lawful, most certainly let restitution be made.*

From the Lincoln Gazette.

Let not Englishmen suppose that, in grappling with America, even in the midst of her present difficulties, they have an easy task before them; let them ponder over the fact that the very men and journals which have been urging the arming of the nation, and the building of a huge navy, avowedly to resist the aggression of the Emperor of the French, are now quite willing to transfer our strength to the other side of the Atlantic, and leave our shores (if their stories were to be believed for one moment) to be invaded, and our country devastated, by our friend and ally the Emperor of the French!

The fact we believe to be that the governing classes in this country would prefer war in any quarter of the world rather than submit to a reduction in the cost of our army and navy, or give an opportunity for the carrying of any substantial measure of political reform; and hence it is of importance that the dreadful question of peace or war should not be left in the hands of the Government alone.

From the Freeman.

Our readers know that we do not adopt the shibboleth of the Peace Society; but we believe that prudence, patriotism, true national honor, and, of course, religion, all unite to forbid war in the present case. If we are attacked—if our colonies are attacked—the sad necessity will be forced upon us; but we do not believe that the wrong in this case, wanton and bad as we think it, is one which can be properly punished only by the horrible process of Englishmen in this country and Transatlantic Englishmen blowing each other to pieces with all the horrible missiles of modern destructive genius. *May England have the courage, come what will, not to be the first to fight.*

From the Northern Daily Whig.

DAVIS, like his agent, MASON, (both of them, when United States Senators, bitter enemies of Britain,) of course endeavors to widen the breach which the affair of the *Trent* is likely to cause with the Federal Government. To enable them to establish their own hideous slave-power they must get Great Britain committed to a war with the Government which these arch-rebels first betrayed, and now hate with concentrated ferocity. He knows full well that such a war would in effect be the establishment of the new Confederacy—that no sooner would Great Britain enter the lists than the fetters of the slave would be riveted closer than ever. Whether the conflict between North and South be one for abolition or not, *there can be no doubt that war at present between Britain and the North would be the recognition of the Southern Confederacy and the destruction of the hopes of the slave.* This prospect does not seem to inspire any hesitation among the war-at-any-price men who now cry out for immediate hostilities. "DAVIS and Slavery" is the madness of the hour; and if the lives of a few thousand British soldiers and sailors will aid in establishing this arch-traitor—with a slave-driver's whip as his sceptre—they will be cheerfully enough given, however much they may be mourned over after they have gone to their account. It is worthy of mention, however, that none of our loud brawlers for war, none of the editors, members of Parliament, or cotton-brokers, propose to sacrifice their own lives in this contest. Somehow they always calculate on some others volunteering for this department.

From the Nonconformist.

We watch for tidings from America with feverish anxiety. We pray God that they may be such as will tend to allay rather than exacerbate public irritation in this country. At any rate, let us await them with calmness! *Let us not be hounded on to an unnecessary contest by the appeals daily made to our pride and passion! Let it not be drilled into us that this is a quarrel which nothing but instant reparation can stay, or nothing but blood avenge!* Let us not get insensibly into the persuasion that we *must* fight, or forfeit our national self-respect! It is not so, and we ought to be above the the possibility of being dragooned into the fatal conviction. The dispute between us and America may be settled by peaceful methods—may best be so settled—and whilst such is the case, be the provocation what it may, it will be a crime of the deepest dye for the two countries to go to war with each other.

LORD PALMERSTON AWAITING DISPATCHES FROM AMERICA.

To the Editor of the London Star:

SIR: In the *Court Journal* I perceive the following announcement:

"Most of the Ministers have left town. *The reply of President Lincoln to the last dispatch of the Foreign Secretary is awaited by the Premier in town.*"

The Queen's messenger, bearing the dispatch in question, left by the Cunard steamer which sailed from Liverpool last Saturday week, and was, I believe, detained for a day at Queenstown. This vessel will probably reach America about the 12th. Allowing five days for the dispatches to reach Washington, and for the receipt of an answer at New-York, and eleven days for the return passage, it is just possible the reply of President LINCOLN may be in London about the 29th or 30th inst. The Premier surely might pass a fortnight of this interval at Broadlands.

I would just inquire, whence does the inspiration of this *Court Journal* come? Is it from JEMMES, at Cambridge House? Or is this little paragraph a part of that sensation policy which is being pursued by some of the other journals supposed to be in the confidence of the Premier?

Is it not just possible to overplay this game? If by good chance the American Government gives us no ground of quarrel, is it quite certain that all this bustle in naval and military circles, and the heavy expenditure incurred in sending reinforcements to Canada, to say nothing of the sacrifices which the consequent state of panic occasions to the owners of property, and the insurers against sea risks at LLOYD'S, may not, before Parliament assembles, react against the very clever personage who is supposed to be such an adept in these appeals to Bunkum? CONSOLS.

DEC. 11.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

NAVAL AND MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

The *Globe* says the following troops have been ordered to Canada in the *Persia*, *Australasian*, and *Melbourne*: Two battalions of infantry of the line, two batteries of artillery, and one company of Royal Engineers. The *Melbourne* has already sailed. Arrangements are being made for forwarding to British North America two battalions of guards, four battalions of infantry of the line, three batteries of field artillery, five batteries of garrison artillery, two battalions of the military train, and two companies of the Royal Engineers. The two battalions of guards under orders are the first battalion Grenadier Guards now at the Tower, and the second battalion Scots Fusilier Guards now at the Wellington Barracks. The Rifle Brigade and first battalion of the Sixteenth are in course of embarkation, and the following battalions are held in readiness, viz.: The first of the Fifteenth and Ninety-sixth, and the second of the Sixteenth Regiment.

The *Express* says the royal mail steamer *Magdalena* is undergoing survey for the conveyance of troops; and the mail steamer *Celt* and other ships lying in Southampton docks have been offered to Government for transport service. The Government, in taking up transports, have not specified how long they will be required. The *Morning Post* states that in addition to the *Persia*, *Australasian*, *Adriatic* and *Parana*, six other screw transports were taken up on the 10th, and will be got ready with all speed to take troops on board.

The activity which now prevails at the several manufacturing departments, and also in the department of the military storekeeper, at the Royal Arsenal, at Woolwich, is unexampled since the busiest period in the Crimean War. Numerous workshops and factories connected with the laboratory department, the royal carriage department, and the manufacture of the several descriptions of Armstrong guns, are now occupied by relays of workmen nightly; and during the present week a considerable number of additional hands have been taken on. In anticipation of the American difficulty terminating in a declaration of war, it has been resolved to have the most ample stores of every description at hand, in addition to the immense amount of warlike munitions now on passage or being shipped for Canada. During the 8th, 9th and 10th, no less than 24 wagons, laden with guns, howitzers, shot, shell, and other war stores, have left the arsenal, under escorts of the Military Train Corps, for London, to be forwarded by railway to Liverpool and shipped for Canada, and additional stores were to be forwarded by the same route during the same week.

The *Shipping Gazette* states that four new iron-clad first-class steam frigates are to be built with all possible despatch. They are to be steam rams as well as steam frigates. The beam or projecting stem under the water is to be twenty feet in advance of the stem. These fresh additions to the royal navy are to have 36 Armstrong 100-pounders on the gun deck, and two pivot guns at the bow and stern, to throw 200lb shot. They will be 80 feet longer than the *Warrior*, but only 18 inches broader. Their tonnage will be 6,815 tons.

Considerable progress has been made in the work of fitting the *Defence*, at Chatham; and, although much remains to be accomplished before she can be pronounced fit for sea, there appears little doubt that she will be ready to make her first trip in about six weeks. The iron-plated ship *Resistance* is being got ready for sea with all possible dispatch. The *Stromboli*, 6, paddle, Commander Lord ELPHINSTONE, was undocked at Portsmouth, on Tuesday. She is destined for North America.

The Admiralty on the 11th took up the following steamers for the conveyance of stores, viz.: the *Admiral Kanaris*, for Bermuda; the *Brenda*, for Halifax; and the *Edward Hawkins*, for Jamaica. The stores are mostly of a warlike kind, and the steamers, as previously mentioned, are to proceed with the greatest dispatch to their respective destinations.

THE FRENCH PRESS ON THE CRISIS.

ENGLAND SEEKING A WAR WITH AMERICA.

From the Journal des Débats.

It is never without some regret that this journal enters into what is now called the American question. Albeit all our sympathies go out towards the cause defended by the North, we never meddle, even verbally, in that awful quarrel without a certain repugnance. If, indeed, we see in the North good citizens fulfilling their first duty by combatting for the greatness of their country against a separation which would for a long while bring it down from the glorious rank it has held in the world, we can also understand that many inhabitants of the South very conscientiously believe they have a right to secede from the Union, and to defend by arms the peculiar institutions of their State. But while there is no object in our directing the attention of the public toward that unhappy war—so closely connected with our own well-being—we cannot suffer in silence the attempts of a part of the Press to reconfound, in this issue, the interests and duties of France with the interests and duties of England. It needs but a few words to indicate the position of each country in this conflict, and to adduce for this position the conduct which justice and good sense points out for us.

It cannot be questioned that England has a double interest in the definitive break up of the American Union. Not only will that rupture check for many years the development of the naval and political power of the United States, but it would also constitute in the South (at least it is hoped so) a great republic, purely agricultural, which would be worked by the capital, the industry and the marine of England, as it has been worked up to this day we must admit, by the capital, industry and navy of the Northern States. That vast farm, as soon as it had achieved its fancied independence, would pass, in all that concerns her commerce, from the hands of the United States into those of England.

If the interest of England appears to us beyond question, at the same time we do not think that it can receive any lasting satisfaction by war or even by victory. Under the most favorable circumstances it does not appear to us likely that the Southern Republic could be prosperous for any length of time. [M. PARADOL here states at some length that Slavery was the chief cause of the separation, and that the sources of disorganization embodied in that institution must continue at work even after a separation, and that the hostility of the North will not mend matters,] he then proceeds: To suppose the maintenance of Slavery in a continental state in contact, all along an immense frontier, with a neighbor openly hostile to that institution, is nursing a chimera. We do not, therefore, think England will reap any lasting reward for her sacrifices if, on the occasion afforded by the *Trent* difficulty, she attempts to complete by war and consolidate by peace the break-up of the United States.

But, however this may be, no cloud veils the true interest of France. We cannot pretend to prevent by arms the rupture of the American Union, but we need not hesitate to look upon the event as a misfortune. If ever we should find ourselves—which Heaven forbid—at war with England, we should bitterly feel the absence of the neutral American flag, the only one which England has been wont to respect, and which would, in the event of hostilities, maintain to our advantage the freedom of the seas. Before the Northern States—separated from the South—shall be able, in time of war, to cause to be respected French commerce, which would inevitably pass under their neutral flag, many years must elapse, during which a war with England might exclude France from every port in the Atlantic. Besides the question of Slavery, which cannot find us insensible, our interest, therefore, must cause us to wish for the maintenance or the restoration of the American Union. We know that this clear and simple view of things is not fashionable just at present, and that Southern sympathies are easily to be found in our *salons*. The motives of that transient bias are too easily detected to deceive the real public. In our country, where real aristocracy is so cruelly deficient, people fancy they are assuming an aristocratic varnish wh

opened to our industry and commerce, both of which are languishing in consequence of a crisis which is prolonged, to the loss of the whole world."

The Famine in Ireland—England Reluctant to Afford Extraordinary Relief.

From the London Times.

We feel what persons of Dr. McHALE's way of thinking never feel—the great evil of interfering with a system expressly devised to meet a particular want, except in case of dire necessity. Such a case arose in 1847, and gratitude for the assistance thus rendered by the English people might well have deterred even an adept in calumny from sneering at our Government for "suffering its patient subjects to starve." If such a case should arise again, in spite of all that has since been done for Ireland, we shall not have a word to say against a resort to extraordinary measures. Till then *we protest, and every Irish landlord of spirit and self-respect will join us in protesting, against setting aside the Poor Laws by recourse to public almsgiving. Great changes* have come over Ireland since the famine year. Emigration has thinned her population to an extent which some Irish patriots profess to deplore, but which should at least moderate their apprehension in prospect of scarcity. The Incumbered Estates Court, with all the train of benefits that followed it, has given the country a solvent class of landlords and tenants. It is nonsense to descant on the "bounden duty of Government to save the lives of its subjects," or to quote the parallel of the French "institutions," without the slightest reference to the existence of a regular machinery for the relief of pauperism. It is worse than nonsense to flatter the ignorant peasantry into a belief that they have "no heart to clear, or drain, or fence their little farms," it is the business of Government to indemnify them against the consequence, without permitting them to enter the work-house. There is a plain answer to all this. Prove to us by the testimony, not of priests only, but of other respectable witnesses, that the famine is really such as you rather suggest than describe; satisfy us that the regular operation of the Poor law, aided by an appeal to the supplementary agency of private charity, is inadequate to meet the occasion—then, and not till then, will it be proper for the Government to exercise that power which you treat as its peculiar function, fruitful in every benefit to the subject, but which is, in truth, most questionable, and often most destructive of national and individual liberty. *The same Sovereigns who have most readily recognized their obligation to feed their people have always discouraged the growth of those independent qualities which might enable them to feed themselves, and no such discouragement is needed in Ireland.*

The Mexican Expedition—Address of the French Admiral to his Forces.

From the Paris Partie.

A private correspondence from Teneriffe, which we have just received, has brought us some interesting details. The steamship-of-the-line *Massina*, from Oran, had cast anchor there on the evening of the 22d of November. On the following day the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-Chief addressed the following order of the day to the squadron:

SAILORS AND SOLDIERS: We go to Mexico; we have not only to continue, like the valiant squadron of which some of you formed party, the reparation of numerous and recent complaints—we have above all things, to claim more serious guarantees than have hitherto been offered to us for respect to our flag, the safety of our commerce, and the existence of our compatriots. We do not entertain any animosity against the Mexican people. We know what we might expect from that noble and generous race if it could put an end to its internal discords, but Governments, powerless to maintain peace at home, will always, whatever their banner, badly protect the safety of strangers. Our real enemy in Mexico is not this or that political faction—it is anarchy: anarchy is an enemy with whom it is useless to treat.

Sailors and soldiers—in the new campaign you are about to commence you have the sympathetic opinion of your country as the judge of your good rights; the concurrence and assent of the whole civilized world; and you will soon have, in Mexico itself, the good wishes of all honest men. Understand, then, the duties which this position imposes upon you. Give the example of order and discipline to the populations. Teach them to honor the name of our glorious country—to envy the prosperity and peace which we enjoy—and you may then repeat with legitimate pride, those words which, a few months since, our Emperor addressed to you—'Wherever the flag of France is displayed a just cause precedes it, a grand people follows it.'

JURIEN DE LA GRAVIERE,
Rear-Admiral, Commander-in-Chief of the French Expeditionary Forces in the Gulf of Mexico.
ON BOARD THE MASSENA, ROADS OF TENERIFFE, November 23, 1861.

The *Massena* sailed from Teneriffe on the 25th of November, *en route* for La Martinique, where the French squadron is to assemble before proceeding to Havana.

His Excellency, Gen. Don JUAN PRIM, Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish expedition to Mexico, embarked on board the war steamer *Ulloa*, at Cadiz, on the 27th ult., and left for Havana, touching at Teneriffe.

THE CONDITION OF CHARLESTON.

Ruins of the Great Fire—Old Landmarks Swept Away—Sufferings of the People—The Insurance Losses, &c.

Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Sunday, Dec. 15.

Our people have scarcely yet awakened from the trance of horror and dismay into which they were plunged by the great disaster of Wednesday night and Thursday morning. The more carefully I survey the path of the fire the more shocking is the sense of utter desolation and distress which creeps over me. The newspapers here have published long and elaborate accounts of the frightful event of the week, but they do not and cannot picture a tithe of the public and private losses, the keen individual suffering and general gloom which have fallen upon the noble old city of Charleston. To give anything like a full history of these would require a book of very respectable size.

There is no doubt whatever that the fire was purely the result of accident. It probably originated from the sparks of a camp fire which was lit to the windward of the large sash factory, where the flames first burst forth. A furious gale had just arisen, and in less than an hour the lower portion of the city was on fire in a dozen places. The wind whirled about great chunks of burning wood for a distance of many blocks from the blazing tenements, and the vast multitude of these red flakes, lighting up the air, gave to the scene the aspect of a fiery storm. The conflagration attained its full width among the dry and ancient tinder-box shanties of State and Market streets. From that neighborhood it swept rapidly and resistlessly forward, spreading neither to the left nor to the right, but borne by the wind in a straight line, diagonally through the city, until it had cleared its road of ruin from the Cooper to the Ashley River. It is somewhat singular to mark the clearness with which the broad line pursued by the fire is defined. Indeed, so furious and unchanging was the gale that blew during the whole of that fearful night, that I think it actually served as a protection to the houses situated on either side of the line of the fire, inasmuch as it kept the flames surging and roaring steadily onward, and gave them no opportunity to turn, or to bend, or to spread.

The most irreparable of the results of this awful calamity is the wholesale destruction of the antiquities of our city. Great numbers of those grand old mansions of revolutionary memory, which have given to Charleston the prestige which attaches to every city of the ancient *régime*, now lie blackened and smouldering heaps of ruins. The stately halls in which the rebels of '76 were wont to live and move, are lost to the rebels of '61. The ancestral homesteads of the Heywards, the Laurences, the Pinckneys, the Middletons, the Haynes, and of many other families whose names are entwined with the history of the State, are leveled with the ground. It is now impossible to go from that portion of the city in which are situated the Battery, the Post-office and the City Hall, to the neighborhood of the Charleston Hotel, or to any part of Wentworth-street, without passing through whole blocks of the desolated tract encumbered by huge piles of stone, brick and charred rafters. Those who are unacquainted with these localities will be able to form some idea of the extent of the fire from the fact that its sweep embraced about a quarter of a mile in width and fully a mile in length, through the very heart and oldest quarter of the city.

Much of the movable property which had been taken from the houses was consumed, owing to the fact that it was foolishly placed in the street some distance ahead of where the fire was raging, but at a point over which the fire swept a little later. It is appalling to think of the immense quantities of rich and old-fashioned furniture, the accumulation of rare and costly libraries, the well-stored cellars of old wines, beyond all price, and the mass of household relics and effects of every kind which have been swept away, and which, in the present state of affairs, it will be found quite impossible to replace.

The firemen worked with all the energy of desperation; but their efforts, in the face of the fierce gale, were of very little avail. The only really effectual check given to the conflagration was due to the resolute and prompt course of Gen. RIPLEY. Mounted and accompanied by his staff, he rode swiftly hither and thither, often through streets over which the flames were already madly arching, his face and person blackened with smoke, giving his orders with his characteristic clearness and decision.

In the earlier period of the fire he saw its fearful character, and gave orders to blow up the entire line of buildings next in front of those which were burning. Had this order been promptly carried out, perhaps the extent of the conflagration might have been materially lessened; but some delay or hesitation occurred, and the auspicious moment passed. Subsequently the General himself superintended the work of blowing up the endangered ranges, and there can be very little doubt that the safety of the Orphan Asylum, the Roper Hospital, containing 240 sick, and the jail, in which the Yankee prisoners were confined, is due solely to his ready assumption of the grave responsibility of blowing up the intervening houses.

I cannot attempt to particularize even the principal losses. The St. Andrew's Hall was the scene of the solemn separation by the Convention of the State of South Carolina from the United States. The Institute Hall, (*alias* "Secession Hall,") in which the act was enthusiastically ratified by the people, is, to Charleston, what Faneuil Hall is to Boston. The Cathedral of St. Finbar, built of brown stone, was a structure equalled in grandeur by very few edifices in the Confederate States. The Mills House had a most singular escape, the fire having burned furiously on three sides of it. But if I should begin to dwell upon incidents like these, my letter would soon reach an unseemly length.

Heavy, indeed, would be the coffers of our insurance companies if they could stand a blow like this, in which the losses must be counted by millions. Some of them may survive, but it is now admitted that most of our city companies will barely be able to pay the amount of the insurances with their whole capital. This, of course, will be ruinous to the stockholders.

Rumor hath it that the blockading squadron fired a salute during the conflagration. It is certain that a number of guns were heard on the harbor, but whether they were meant as an evidence of the brutal joy of the Yankees is a matter of doubt. It is not difficult to predict that the Northern newspapers will gloat like vampires over the terrible calamity which has occurred. But let their hireling hosts approach, and they will find the spirit of our people is unshaken in their woe, and that those who have bowed to the sorrow with which Providence has afflicted them, are not yet prepared to succumb to the invader.

The destitution here is awful. I am glad to be able to add that the most liberal and extensive measures are being taken to remedy the wide-spread suffering.

Our sister States and communities are nobly rallying to the rescue. Georgia (the State) has given her "mite" of one hundred thousand dollars; Savannah ten thousand; Augusta eleven thousand, and the citizens of Charleston have already rolled up more than fifty thousand; New-Orleans and the other cities of the Confederacy are bestirring themselves, and there is no doubt that the millions needed will speedily be forthcoming.

A fight is imminent at some point between here and Savannah. The Yankees are pushing forward, and have already made several flying incursions to the main. We have a report that Gen. PENDERTON has taken a force of picked men to attack the enemy at a point which he has lately occupied. The sharp work will certainly soon begin.

FROM OUR SOUTHERN PORTS.

OUR FORT MONROE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE FIGHT AT NEWMARKET BRIDGE—SUPERIOR NUMBER OF THE ENEMY—BRAVERY OF THE TURNERS—THE REPULSE OF THE REBELS WITH CONSIDERABLE LOSS.

FORTRESS MONROE, DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA, Monday, Dec. 23, 1861.

Since I last wrote, there has been little of interest to mention, here or at Camp Hamilton. We were startled, yesterday afternoon, by the news that a fight was going on at Newmarket Bridge, between the Newport's News troops and the enemy; and Acting Brig.-Gen. MAX WEBER immediately got the Twentieth Regiment (six companies) under arms, and proceeded to that place—your correspondent joining the regiment on the march.

Upon arriving at the scene of action, however, we found, alas, that we were too late, as, after a sharp fight of two hours, he had retreated, bearing off his dead and wounded.

We learned then the facts of the fight.

It appears that in the morning a party of the Twentieth New-York, (Turner Rifles,) stationed at Newport's News, had started out, under command of Capt. DRAKE DE KAY, of Gen. MANSFIELD'S Staff, and Major SNEFF, of the Twentieth, numbering 130 strong. They proceeded to Newmarket Bridge, where Major SNEFF posted himself with about one hundred men, under Capt. STUMPF, and thirty men under Capt. DE KAY, and Capt. HEFFLING took the Bethel Road, upon which, at the distance of a mile, they met the enemy, consisting of 200 cavalry, (Prince Charles Cavalry Regiment) and 150 infantry, of the Eighth Alabama Regiment. The cavalry charged desperately on our men, who nobly resisted the very superior force, and at once sprang into the adjoining hedges and fences, slowly retiring, receiving the murderous fire of the enemy with great coolness, and contesting every foot. They thus continued fighting till they reached the woods, when the enemy, seeing them in cover, and disliking the crack of the Turner rifles, which emptied at every shot a saddle, pushed on the cross road running past and near the Newmarket Bridge; here they were met by the reserve, under Major SNEFF, who poured several volleys into them, and then retreated over the river. The bridge being destroyed, they formed on the opposite bank, and kept up a galling fire, which finally forced the enemy to retire, which he did, carrying off, in blankets and over horses' backs, the bodies of their dead and wounded, the cries of the latter sounding fearfully agonizing in the still, cold air.

Meanwhile, Capt. DE KAY's advance had marched over to the left Bethel road, in sight of the bridge, and formed an ambuscade in the woods, where the retreating enemy least expected a renewal of the fight; and upon his approach he received a rapid and deadly fire from the bush, when, surprised and bewildered at the net he seemed to have fallen into, he dispersed in the woods to the right, and fled incontinently.

Of the advance party three privates were wounded, one severely, and of the reserve two were wounded and one taken prisoner.

The loss of the enemy is uncertain, but is estimated, at the lowest, 25 to 30 in killed and wounded.

The officers and men behaved in the coolest manner throughout the affair, in which they were so much outnumbered, and deserve great credit therefor.

Upon our coming up they received us with great delight, being gratified at the eagerness we displayed to lend them our assistance in time of need. We were, of course, anxious to go over the river to pursue and capture, if possible, the retreating forces; but the lateness of the hour prevented, and bidding farewell to the gallant Turners, we tramped back to the quiet shades of Camp Hamilton, cheering the way with an occasional song.

To-day we have a great change of weather—it is blowing a gale of wind, the vessels in the Roads tugging and grinding at their chains, while the heavy sea running threatens to engulf them every moment.

L.

OUR HATTERAS INLET CORRESPONDENCE.

WRETCHED CONDITION OF OUR TROOPS—STRENGTHENING THE POSITION—EXPECTED ATTACK BY THE REBELS, ETC.

HATTERAS INLET, N. C., Monday, Dec. 23, 1861.

The steamer *S. R. Spaulding* arrived here today with large supplies of provisions for the troops, and having as passengers Col. R. C. HAWKINS, Rev. T. W. CONWAY, Lieut. WEBSTER and others. She brings valuable material to be used in a fight, such as rifled cannon, &c.

The condition of the troops is wretched. There are but few of them in barracks, and mostly all the New-York Ninth are still in their old tents. The universal cry among both officers and privates is this: "Why do we not get removed from this miserable place?" And from the spirit generally manifested, I judge that, however noble may have been the aspirations and ambition of the troops prior to their arrival, one thing is now quite evident—they want to do what fighting is to be done, *and then go away.*

Vast preparations for defence have been instituted here, in the vicinity of Camp Winfield—a camp newly established, several miles up the island, and, from the appearance of the part of the work already accomplished, one may notice that, while there is much here to dishearten and discourage troops, still they do good and effective service.

There is good reason to believe that the rebels are contemplating an early attack by way of carrying out the threat of JEFF. DAVIS, that "Hatteras must be retaken, if it costs him the loss of ten thousand men." An expedition is known to be on foot by the rebels of Norfolk to come down and attack us; but I am not at liberty to state what we have done, nor what is now being done, to give them a taste of what we gave them once before at this place.

One thing is very evident: from the time since we have taken this place up to this moment, the rebels have manifested a degree of impudence which a genuine Yankee spirit should never tolerate by silence. They have come within two miles or three, of our forces, turned broadside to, fired shot and shell at our troops and at our ships, saying, "Come out if you dare." They have even come down with a single boat, and in this same way challenged our vessels to come out to meet them; but we have not done it. Now the time has come: let us make good our professions of "grit," and make an advance with two *Monticellos*, each having a "BRAINE," and we will easily command Pamlico Sound.

The health of the troops is poor, especially that of the Ninth New-York Volunteers. This regiment has suffered more at Hatteras than any other. They have had their share of "hard times," and the patience with which they bear their troubles, ought serve as an incentive to their removal. They have seen their comrades struck down with Hatteras diseases; buried among its wild sands; drowned through its gales, and their bodies, mangled by the fishes of the sea, cast upon the shore, picked up by trembling hands, and borne mournfully to the grave. These scenes leave Hatteras among the recollections of our troops, associated only with that which is repulsive and shocking. One man says, "In the future I can hardly think of Hatteras, without the word 'd—n' escapes my lips."

Corporal CASEY had an amusing encounter with a big deer the other day. He went out with a few others to have a sail as far as the Cape. Previously, some others had gone on a deer-hunt. The deer was chased till he took for the waters of Pamlico Sound. The Corporal exclaimed: "There! yonder is a deer!" "No," said the native, "that is a duck." They pulled on, and soon all agreed it was a deer. Parties from shore put out after him, and kept him from returning, while the Corporal put full steam to his muscle and overtook him. One of the natives struck at him with his oar, another with something else, but of no avail. The Corporal jumped on his back; they both went under the water: and while under, the Corporal killed the deer with his pen-knife, and came up with one of his horns, which was broken off in the encounter.

There have been some promotions in the Ninth. Lieut. James R. Whiting has been promoted to Captain; Second Lieut. R. M. Morris has been promoted to First Lieutenant; Second Lieut. Klingsoehr to First Lieutenant; Sergeant De Bevoise to Second Lieutenant; Sergeant Green to Second Lieutenant; Sergeant Herbert to Second Lieutenant; Sergeant McKechnie to Second Lieutenant; Quartermaster Sergeant Cooper to Second Lieutenant. It may be said that in these promotions the regiment has one cause to rejoice. The officers whose services have thus been signalized by distinguished consideration have deserved well the commissions placed in their hands, and no doubt, by their future fidelity to their country, they will prove deserving of their new trust.

C.

INTERESTING OFFICIAL REPORTS.

THE FIGHT AT DRANESVILLE.

OFFICIAL REPOTT OF GEN. MCCALL.

HEADQUARTERS MCCALL'S DIVISION, CAMP PIERPONT, Dec. 22, 1861.

Brigadier-General R. B. Marcy, Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to present, for the information of the General-in-Chief, a more detailed account of the affair at Dranesville on the 20th inst., together with the report of Brig.-E. O. ORD, commander of the Third Brigade of my Division, and the commander of the Sixth Infantry, Lieut.-Col. W. B. PENROSE, of the Ninth Infantry; Col. S. F. JACKSON, of the Tenth Infantry; Col. J. S. MCCALMONT, of the Twelfth Infantry; Col. J. H. TAGGART, of the First Rifles; Lieut.-Col. KANE, of two squadrons of the First Cavalry; Lieut.-Col. J. HIGGINS, and Easton's Battery, Capt. H. EASTON, Pennsylvania reserves.

On the evening of the 19th I learned that the enemy's pickets had advanced to within four or five miles of our lines, and carried off two good Union men, and plundered and threatened others, and that their reserve was in the neighborhood of Dranesville. I gave written instructions, a copy of which is marked, to Brig.-Gen. ORD to move with his brigade at 6 A. M. on the 20th, to surround and capture their party, and at the same time to collect a supply of forage from the farms of the rank Secessionists in that vicinity.

Brig.-Gen. J. J. REYNOLDS, with the first brigade, was directed to move on to Difficult Creek, to be ready to support Gen. ORD, in the event of his meeting a force greater than his own.

At 10½ o'clock A. M., on the 20th, I received a dispatch from Gen. ORD, written on the march, informing me that the guide had learned on the way that there was a full brigade, but without artillery, at Hendon's Station, 500 infantry and cavalry at Hunter's Mills, and 200 infantry between Dranesville and the Potomac. I immediately mounted my horse, and with my Staff and an escort of cavalry moved rapidly forward to overtake, if possible, Gen. ORD's Brigade. I stopped a few moments with Brig.-Gen. REYNOLDS at Difficult Creek, and having directed him to be in readiness to move forward rapidly in case he should be required to support Gen. ORD, I rode on. When within about two miles of Dranesville, I heard the first gun fired by the enemy. It was soon answered by EASTON's Battery, which imparted to me the fact that the enemy had artillery with them. A rapid ride soon brought me to the field, where Gen. ORD was hotly engaged. I found EASTON's Battery judiciously placed, and in full blast upon the enemy's battery, about 500 yards in front, on the Centreville road. Here I stopped to observe the practice of our battery, while one of my Staff rode off to ascertain where Gen. ORD was.

While here, admiring the accuracy of the shot and shell thrown by this battery upon the battery of the enemy, a force of infantry and cavalry made their appearance from cover on the enemy's right, moving in a direction to turn our left. Col. MCCALMONT, whose regiment was on the left, was notified of this movement; but a few shell from our battery, skillfully thrown into their midst, checked their advance, and drove them back lugubriously to cover.

Not hearing anything of Gen. ORD, I set out in search of him on our right, where brisk firing was at the time going on. Here was the Ninth Infantry, Col. JACKSON, who had gallantly met the enemy at close quarters and nobly sustained the credit of his State.

By this time Capt. SCHEETS, of my staff, reported that he had found Gen. ORD near the centre of the front. Proceeding there, I found the Rifles and a party of the Sixth Infantry Pennsylvania, reserve, engaging under a brisk fire with the enemy. Having met Gen. ORD, we moved forward, and the position where the enemy's battery had been placed was soon gained, and here we had evidence of the fine artillery practice of EASTON's battery. The road was strewed with men and horses, two caissons, one of them blown up, a limber, a gun carriage wheel, and a quantity of artillery ammunition, small arms, and an immense quantity of heavy clothing, blankets, etc.

The battle was now over, and the victory won. With my consent, Gen. ORD made an advance of about half a mile, but nothing further was to be seen, as the enemy, in full flight, had passed beyond our reach.

I then recalled Gen. ORD, and prepared for the return of my command. I ordered the harness to be taken off the enemy's horses which lay dead in the road, and to be put upon horses of my escort, and brought away the perfect caisson and the limber.

Early in the day, not knowing what force might be thrown forward from Centreville to support the troops we had encountered, I had called forward Brig.-Gen. REYNOLDS' First Brigade and Brig.-Gen. MEADE's Second Brigade from Camp Pierpont, to the support of the 3d brigade. These distinguished officers promptly brought forward their commands, and I only regretted that the fine disposition of the regiments and battery of Gen. ORD's command, together with the gallantry of Cols. JACKSON, MCCALMONT and TAGGART, and Lieut.-Cols. KANE, HIGGINS and PENROSE, and Capt. EASTON, had left nothing for Gens. REYNOLDS and MEADE to do.

The rout of the enemy was complete, but as I did not consider it justifiable to bivouac at Drainesville, when my ammunition was much exhausted, and the enemy might easily throw 10,000 or 20,000 men between me and my camp during the night, I ordered every arrangement to be promptly made for the return march. Some time was required to prepare our wounded—sixty officers and men—to be transported to camp, and it was nearly dark before I got the column in motion. Our killed and wounded, as well as so many of the rebel wounded as could be moved, were brought away.

The troops we had engaged and defeated were the First Kentucky Regiment, Col. TOM. TAYLOR, about 800 strong on the field; the Tenth Alabama, Col. FORNEY, 900 strong, a South Carolina Regiment, whose Colonel was not known to the prisoners in our possession, who informed me that no intercourse between different regiments was ever allowed, and a Virginia regiment. The Kentucky prisoners informed me they believed a fifth regiment was present, as two or three regiments had left Centreville at 3 A. M., and they, the Kentucky and Alabama regiments, together with Capt. CURR's Georgia Battery and STEWART's Virginia Regiment of Cavalry, left at 5 A. M. The whole were under command of Brig.-Gen. STEWART.

Gen. ORD reports as worthy of notice, his personal Staff, and also Cols. MCCALMONT and JACKSON, Lieut.-Col. KANE, Capts. EASTON, First Pennsylvania Artillery; MILES, First Rifles; BRADBURY, Sixth Infantry Pennsylvania Reserve; DICK and GALWAY, Ninth Infantry Pennsylvania Reserve.

The number of killed found in front of the position occupied by the Ninth Infantry, Col. JACKSON, is in my estimation, proof enough of the gallantry and discipline of that fine regiment. But where all behaved nobly, it is difficult to discriminate. I must, however, call your attention more particularly to Brig.-Gen. O. C. ORD, for whose able disposition of his regiments and battery, and personal exertions to encourage and urge on his men, too much credit cannot be accorded him; to Captain H. J. BIDDLE, Adjutant-General of my Staff; Lieut. H. A. SCHEETS, A. D. C.; Captain CLOW, Brigade Commissary, Acting A. D. C.; Lieut. E. BEATTY, Ordnance-Officer, Acting A. D. C., my thanks are due, for their gallantry in carrying orders under fire, and for encouraging and urging on the men; and also to Captain CHANDLER HALL, Brig.-Quartermaster, who was energetically employed in collecting forage.

Seven prisoners were taken, whose names are as follows: Corporal Fenis E. Long, First Kentucky Regiment; Private Wm. Nelson, First Kentucky Regiment; Private Patrick Hughes, First Kentucky Regiment; Private Robert R. Moss, Tenth Alabama Regiment; Private Ira Channing, Tenth Alabama Regiment; Private Wm. Morris, Tenth Alabama Regiment; Private J. Williamson, Tenth Alabama Regiment.

The want of ambulances was felt on this occasion, and I would respectfully suggest that a few more be ordered to each regiment of my Division, as I was unable, for want of transport, to bring from the field all the wounded prisoners taken in the affair. Those left, I had placed in comfortable quarters at Drainesville, where they can be well attended to. But owing to this deficiency of transportation for the wounded, I was compelled to leave in the hands of the enemy some of the prisoners. Last, but not least, I brought in 16 wagon loads of excellent hay, and 22 of corn.

The following list of killed and wounded on our side is, I regret, greater than I at first reported, namely: Seven killed, sixty-one wounded, including one Lieutenant-Colonel and four Captains, and three missing. From what I gathered from various reliable sources, I am satisfied that the loss of the enemy was, at the very lowest, ninety killed, left on the field, besides those carried off, among whom was certainly Col. TOM TAYLOR, commanding the First Kentucky Regiment, whom a Kentucky prisoner in my custody states he saw fall from his horse. Col. FORNEY is also said to have been killed. This, however, is not satisfactorily ascertained. Gen. STEWART is reported by one of the prisoners to have been killed or wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
GEO. B. MCCALL, B. G. C. D.

THE CAPTURE OF PORT ROYAL.

COMMODORE DUPONT'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP WABASH, PORT ROYAL HARBOR, S. C., Nov. 11, 1861.

SIR: I have now the honor to submit the following detailed account of the action of the 7th November:

From the reconnoissance of the 5th we were led to believe that the forts on Bay Point and Hilton Head were armed with more than twenty guns each, of the heaviest calibre and longest range, and were well constructed and well manned; but that the one on Hilton Head was the strongest. The distance between them is two and two-tenths nautical miles—too great to admit of their being advantageously engaged at the same time, except at long shot. I resolved, therefore, to undertake the reduction of Hilton Head—or, as I shall hereafter call it, Fort Walker—first, and afterward to turn my attention to Fort Beauregard—the fort on Bay Point.

The greater part of the guns of Port Walker were presented upon two water fronts, and the flanks were but slightly guarded, especially on the north, on which side the approach of an enemy had not been looked for.

A fleet of the enemy, consisting of seven steamers, armed, but to what extent I was not informed further than that they carried rifled guns, occupied the northern portion of the harbor, and stretched along from the mouth of Beaufort River to Skull Creek. It was high water on the 7th instant, at 11.35 A. M., by the tables of the Coast Survey.

These circumstances, the superiority of Fort Walker, and its weakness on the northern flank, the presence of the rebel fleet, and the flood tide of the morning, decided the plan of attack and the order of battle.

The order of battle comprised a main squadron, ranged in a line ahead, and a flanking squadron, which was to be thrown off on the northern section of the harbor to engage the enemy's flotilla, and prevent them raking the rear ships of the main line, when it turned to the southward, or cutting off a disabled vessel.

The main squadron consisted of the frigate *Wabash*, Commander C. K. P. Rogers, the leading ship; the frigate *Susquehannah*, Capt. J. S. Lardner; the sloop *Mohican*, Commander S. W. Gordon; the sloop *Seminole*, Commander J. P. Gillis; the sloop *Pawnee*, Lieut.-Commanding R. L. C. Wyman; the gunboat *Unadilla*, Lieut.-Commanding N. Collins; the gunboat *Ottawa*, Lieut.-Commanding J. H. Stevens; the gunboat *Pembina*, Lieut.-Commanding J. P. Bankhead; and the sailing sloop *Vandalia*, Commander F. S. Haggerty, towed by the *Isaac Smith*, Lieut.-Commanding W. A. Nicholson.

The flanking squadron consisted of the gunboat *Bienville*, Commander CHARLES STEADMAN, the leading ship; the gunboat *Seneca*, Lieut.-Commanding AMMEN; the gunboat *Curlew*, Lieut.-Commanding P. G. WATMOUGH; the gunboat *Penguin*, Lieut.-Commanding P. A. BUDD; and the gunboat *Augusta*, Commander E. G. PARROTT, the closing ship of that line.

The plan of attack was to pass up midway between Forts Walker and Beauregard, receiving and returning the fire of both to a certain distance, about two and a half miles north of the latter. At that point the line was to turn to the south round by the west and close in with Fort Walker, encountering it on its weakest flank, and at the same time enfilading in nearly a direct line its two water faces. While standing to the southward the vessels of the line were head to tide, which kept them under command, while the rate of going was diminished.

When abreast of the fort the engine was to be slowed and the movement reduced to only as much as would be just sufficient to overcome the tide, to preserve the order of battle by passing the batteries in slow succession, and to avoid becoming a fixed mark for the enemy's fire. On reaching the extremity of Hilton Head and the shoal ground making off from it, the line was to turn to the north by east, and passing to the northward, to engage Fort Walker with the port battery, nearer than when first on the same course. These evolutions were to be repeated. The accompanying plan will explain the preceding description.

The captains of the ships had been called on board and instructed as to the general formation of the lines and their own respective places.

At 8 o'clock the signal was made to get under way. At 8:10 the ship, riding to the flood, tripped her anchor, and at 8:30 the ship turned and was headed in for the forts. At 9 the signal was made for "close order." At 9:26 the action commenced by a gun from Fort Walker, immediately followed by another from Fort Beauregard. This was answered at once from this ship, and immediately after from the *Susquehannah*. At 10 o'clock the leading ship of the line turned to the southward, and made signal to the *Vandalia*, which ship, in tow of the *Isaac Smith*, was dropping astern, and was exposed, without support, to the fire of Fort Beauregard, to join company. At 10:15 the signal was made for closer action, the *Wabash* slowly passing Fort Walker at a distance, when abreast, of eight hundred yards. At 11 the signal was made to get into and preserve stations, and at 11:15 to follow the motions of the Commander-in-Chief.

Standing to the northward, nearly in the line shown in the diagram, the ship's head was again turned to the southward, and she passed the guns of Fort Walker at a distance less than six hundred yards. (The sights were adjusted to five hundred and fifty yards.) At 11:30 the enemy's flag was shot away.

The second fire with the starboard guns of the *Wabash*, and of Capt. LARDNER, in the *Susquehannah*, my second in command, who always kept so near as to give me the entire support of his formidable battery, seems, at this short distance, to have discomfitted the enemy. Its effect was increased by the shells thrown from the smaller vessels at the enfilading point. It was evident that the enemy's fire was becoming much less frequent, and finally it was kept up at such long intervals and with so few guns as to be of little consequence.

After the *Wabash* and *Susquehannah* had passed to the northward, and given the fort the fire of their port battery the third time, the enemy had entirely ceased to reply, and the battle was ended.

At 1:15, the *Ottawa* signaled that the works at Hilton Head were abandoned. This information was, a few minutes later, repeated by the *Pembina*. As soon as the starboard guns of this ship and the *Susquehannah* had been brought to bear a third time upon Fort Walker, I sent Commander JOHN RODGERS on shore with a flag of truce. The hasty flight of the enemy was visible, and was reported from the tops. At 2:20, Capt. RODGERS hoisted the flag of the Union over the deserted post. At 2:45, I anchored, and sent Commander C. R. P. RODGERS on shore with the marines and a party of seamen to take possession, and prevent, if necessary, the destruction of public property.

The transports now got under way, and came up rapidly, and by nightfall Brig.-Gen. WRIGHT's Brigade had landed and entered upon the occupation of the ground.

I have said in the beginning of this report, that the plan of attack designed making the reduction of Fort Walker the business of the day. In passing to the northward, however, we had improved every opportunity of firing at long range upon Fort Beauregard. As soon as the fate of Fort Walker was decided, I dispatched a small squadron to Fort Beauregard, to reconnoitre and ascertain its condition, and to prevent the rebel steamers returning to carry away either persons or property.

Near sunset it was discovered that the flag upon this fort was hauled down, and that the fort was apparently abandoned.

At sunrise the next day the American ensign was hoisted on the flagstaff of Fort Beauregard by Lieut.-Commanding AMMEN.

The *Pocahontas*, Commander PERCIVAL DRAYTON, had suffered from the gale of Friday night so badly as not to be able to enter Port Royal until the morning of the 7th. He reached the scene of action about 12 o'clock, and rendered gallant service by engaging the batteries on both sides in succession.

Lieut.-Commanding H. S. NEWCOMBE, of the *R. B. Forbes*, which vessel had been employed in towing the *Great Republic*, arrived in time to take good part in the action.

And, finally, the tug *Mercury*, Acting Quartermaster MARTIN commanding, employed his single Parrot gun with skill and effect.

After congratulating you upon the success thus far of our expedition, which had its origin in the counsels of the Department, and which the Department had fostered and labored to render efficient, the gratifying duty remains to be performed of according to each and all their due share of praise for good conduct in their encounter with the enemy. This duty, though most welcome, is still delicate.

I am well aware that each one did his part in his place, and when I discriminate, it is in cases that necessarily fell under my own immediate observation.

I have no doubt that all would have embraced and improved the same opportunities of distinction, and in noticing those who were made prominent by their stations, or who were near me during the action, I am showing no invidious preference.

The General Order No. 2, already forwarded to the Department, expressed in general terms my commendation of the gallantry and skill of the officers and men.

The reports of the commanding officers of the several ships, herewith inclosed, do justice to those under them, while the results speak for the commanding officers themselves. The names of the latter are mentioned in the beginning of this dispatch. I refer with pleasure to them again. They did their duty to my satisfaction, and I am most happy to bear testimony to their zeal and ability.

The officers of this ship, to whom I am deeply indebted, will be mentioned by her commander, C. R. P. RODGERS, in his special report.

It affords me the highest gratification to speak of the manner in which this ship was handled during the engagement, owing, in a great measure, to the professional skill, the calm and rapid judgment, and the excellent management of Commander C. R. P. RODGERS. His attention was divided between this duty and the effective service of the guns, which involved the estimation of distances, the regulation of fuses, and the general supervision of the divisions. His conduct and judicious control of everything within the sphere of his duty, though no more than was to be expected from his established reputation, impressed me with a higher estimation than ever of his attainments and character.

I had also an opportunity to remark the admirable coolness and discrimination of the First Lieutenant, T. C. CRAVEN. The good order, discipline, and efficiency in every respect of this ship are, to a great extent, the results of his labors as executive officer, and they were conspicuous on this occasion.

Acting-Master SERLES, acting as pilot, was devoted and intelligent in the performance of his duties; and the Third Assistant Engineer, MESSINGER, who attended the bell, was prompt and always correct.

Acting-Master S. W. PEASTON, acting as my flag lieutenant, displayed throughout the day an undisturbed intelligence, and a quick and general observation which proved very useful. His duties as signal officer were performed without mistake. This gentleman, and the young officers, (Mr. R. H. LAMSON, Mr. J. P. ROBERTSON, Mr. J. H. ROWLAND,) who were also under my eye, in immediate command of the pivot guns and spar-deck divisions, sustained the reputation and exhibited the benefit of the Naval Academy, the training of which only could make such valuable officers of such young men.

Commander JOHN RODGERS, a passenger on this ship, going to take command of the steamer *Flag*, volunteered to act upon my staff. It would be difficult for me to enumerate the duties he performed, they were so numerous and so various, and he brought to them all an invincible energy and the highest order of professional knowledge and merit. I was glad to show my appreciation of his great services by allowing him the honor to hoist the first American flag on the rebellious soil of South Carolina.

My secretary, Mr. ALEXANDER MCKINLEY, was by my side throughout the engagement, making memoranda under my direction. He exhibited the same cool bravery which he had once before had an opportunity of showing under fire in a foreign land. It gives me pleasure to mention him here as a gentleman of intelligence, of good worth, and of heartfelt devotion to his country.

I have yet to speak of the chief of my staff and Fleet Captain, Commander CHARLES H. DAVIS, in the organization of our large fleet before sailing, and in the preparation and systematic arrangement of the details of our contemplated work. In short, in all the duties pertaining to the Flag Officer, I received his most valuable assistance. He possesses the rare quality of being a man of science and a practical officer, keeping the love of science subordinate to the regular duties of his profession. During the action he watched over the movements of the fleet, kept the official minutes, and evinced that calmness in danger which, to my knowledge, for thirty years has been a conspicuous trait in his character.

I have the honor to be, &c.,
S. F. DUPONT,
Flag Officer Com. South Atlantic Block. Squad.
Hon. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

MISCELLANEOUS REBELLION NEWS.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.

The Confederates at Drainesville have been largely reinforced, and are using means to draw out the Federal troops. There is no disposition on the part of Gen. MCCALL to avoid an encounter, and any advance on the part of the rebels will certainly result in another engagement.

The recent engagement at Drainesville is acknowledged, as the facts have now been received from both sides, to have been one of the best-contested encounters we have yet had with the enemy. Gen. STUART and some of his officers showed a heroic spirit, and Col. KANE says that he could distinctly hear the officers urging the rebel army on to battle.

The officer, he says, implored the men to rush forward; but, after using every argument in his power, they failed to obey, when the officer, in a last desperate effort to make his men advance upon our troops, rushed forward himself, when he was shot down, and his men were immediately dispersed. So near were the two armies together, that Col. KANE distinctly heard the order given by the rebel officer, to aim at the officer (KANE) leading on the Bucktails; and he attributes his own escape from death on the field wholly to

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DEC. 29, 1861.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

Published in the TIMES Building, fronting the City Hal Park, on Park-row, Spruce and Nassau-streets.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

It was intimated in the TIMES yesterday morning, that the affair of the *Trent* had been adjusted on a basis which would probably prove satisfactory to both Great Britain and the United States. We this morning publish the diplomatic correspondence between the Governments of France and England on the one hand, and that of the United States on the other, concerning the question of international law, involved in the seizure of the rebel Commissioners. The first document is a note from Mr. SEWARD to Mr. ADAMS, in which the case is briefly mentioned, and in which Mr. SEWARD says that the action of Capt. WILKES was without any instructions from the Government, and he trusted that the British Government would consider the subject in a friendly temper. Then follows a note from Earl RUSSELL to Lord LYONS, dated Nov. 30, reciting the English version of the case—declaring that the act of Capt. WILKES was an affront to the British flag, and a violation of international law; and announcing that the "liberation of the four gentlemen named, and their delivery to your lordship," together with a suitable apology for the aggression, alone could satisfy the British nation. To this Mr. SEWARD responds in a paper, addressed to Lord LYONS, under date of the 26th inst., in which he analyzes at great length the principles of public law involved in the case, and arrives at the conclusion that the Government of the United States would be wrong in refusing to comply with the British demand, so far as relates to the disposition that shall be made of the persons captured. He closes by saying that the "four persons in question" will be cheerfully liberated; and your lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them." No "apology," however, is offered, because no offence was intended. To this Lord LYONS responds by announcing that he will forward the communication to Her Majesty's Government, and will immediately make arrangements to place the "four gentlemen" again "under the protection of the British flag." Beside these documents on the *Trent* case, there is a dispatch from M. THOUVENEL, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, to M. MERCIER, the "Minister of the Emperor at Washington," in which THOUVENEL pronounces the conduct of the American cruiser unjustifiable, but hopes for a pacific solution of the difficulty. To this Mr. SEWARD responds in a note to M. MERCIER, in which he corrects an error of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, refers him to his correspondence with the British Government, and exchanges assurances of friendship. The whole correspondence will doubtless be universally perused.

Later news from the rebel States reaches us through the medium of a flag of truce between Fortress Monroe and Norfolk. The *Day Book*, of Norfolk, suspended publication on Thursday last for want of paper. At Yorktown considerable excitement prevailed, in anticipation of an attack by the National forces. It is understood that all the sick were removed from there on the 21st, by order of MAGRUDER. A dispatch from Nashville announces that the rebel General CRITTENDEN, with 12,000 men, was, on the 25th, within forty miles of Hopkinsville, Ky., and would advance upon that place at three points. Gen. BUELL is reported to have crossed Green River with a force of not less than 60,000 National troops. Great preparations are said to have been made at Bowling Green for defence, and a bloody conflict is believed by the rebels to be impending.

By the steamship *Karnak*, which arrived at this port last evening, we have advices from Nassau, N. P., to the 23d inst., at which time the rebel steamers *Isabel* and *Gordon* were in port, closely watched by the United States steamer *Flambeau*. This is corroborative of the intelligence recently received from Key West, which also stated that the *Sumter* was blockaded in the harbor of Cienfuegos by the *Iroquois*. The British steamer *Gladiator* was in the harbor of Nassau, and was expected to leave soon for England.

The steamer *Constitution* will probably sail from Boston on Monday with the rest of Gen. BUTLER'S division. She carries large quantities of provisions and other supplies.

FROM EUROPE.

The mails by the *Nova Scotian*, which came to hand yesterday, are one day later than before received, though the news is not so late as received by the *Niagara*. We make a variety of extracts, showing the temper of the Press and people of Great Britain on the *Trent* question. Prominent among them are the utterances of members of Parliament to their constituents. Mr. HORSMAN made a speech at Stroud on the 10th, in which he declared his belief that there would be no war, though he contended that the interests and sympathies of Englishmen were with the South. The London *Times*, in commenting upon this speech, commends its sentiments. Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD made a speech at Bury on the 11th, in which he deprecated a war with the United States, and hoped it would be averted. Mr. FREDERICK PEEL also made a speech on the 11th, in which he counseled moderation in regard to the *Trent* affair. He likewise gave his views relative to the struggle between the United States Government and the rebellion, in which he expressed his belief that the North was fighting for dominion as well as for union, and that the South was fighting for self-government as well as for Slavery. Mr. H. BRAND, at Lewes, on the 10th, insisted that England regarded with the most friendly feeling the people of the United States, and looked upon war with them as a great calamity to be averted, if possible, without loss of National honor. Mr. MILLER, at Leith on the 10th, denounced the affair of the *Trent* as a gross insult to England, the culmination of a series of offences for which America ought to be punished. A short blockade of the Northern ports would decide the question of separation between the North and South, when England would be pretty sure of compensation for all the expenses incurred through a largely increased trade with the South.

In marked contrast with the general utterances of those more or less remotely connected with the Government, are the utterances of the Provincial Press. The extracts which we give elsewhere indicate an anti-war current in England which it would be dangerous for the British Government to pass over heedlessly.

We give also various extracts from the French Press, which possess considerable significance. The *Débats*, in a lengthy article, argues that England is seeking a pretext for a war with the United States, and forcibly points out the danger to France of a serious misunderstanding with America—deprecating the apparent sympathy with Slavery which has been developed in the course of discussions of the *Trent* difficulty. The *Moniteur*, the official organ of the Government, remains strictly neutral, simply giving the opinions of the different journals and the telegraphic dispatches. The *Constitutionnel* openly espouses the cause of England, and, of course, finds nowhere the shadow of a good reason to refuse sympathy to the Southern States.

The war preparations continued unabated in England. The *Shipping Gazette* states that four new iron-clad first-class steam-frigates were to be built immediately, to serve also as steam-rams, the projecting sterns of which were to be twenty feet long. They will each carry thirty-six Armstrong 100-pounders on the gun-deck, and two pivot-guns at the bow and stern, to throw 200-pound shot. They will be 80 feet longer than the *Warrior*, though only 18 inches broader, and their tonnage is to be 6,815.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Board of Aldermen, last evening, appropriated $500 each, to the Presidents of the Aldermen and Councilmen, for services as Health Commissioners. An appropriation passed to provide a drill-room for the new Thirty-seventh Regiment, State Militia. JAMES F. MURRAY, was reimbursed $113 for damage done to his house by a mob, on the night of election. The sum of $250 was granted the reader for extra services. The Board concurred in the Railroad bill of the Councilmen. The Board of Councilmen held a regular meeting and rushed through a series of resolutions, confirming the grant, as conveyed in the "Gridiron" Railroad bill. It was violently opposed by Messrs. KEECH, LENT, ORTON and PINCKNEY, but as all proposed amendments were voted down by a distinct vote, the opponents were forced to yield, and the measure was finally adopted—Ayes 13, Noes 10. An injunction having been served on some of the members, in the matter of the purchase of the "Fort Gansevoort" property, it was referred to the Corporation Counsel, with a request to report at the next meeting. The NEW YORK TIMES and *World* were made Corporation papers.

The prize sloop *Havelock*, captured off Cape Romaine, S. C., by the sloop-of-war *Jamestown*, arrived at Philadelphia on Friday, in charge of prize-master Midshipman TYSON. The *Havelock*, which was from Matanzas, is loaded with coffee and cigars chiefly. Her papers have been placed in the hands of Prize-Commissioner FLANDERS.

Capt. JOHN DE CAMP, of Morristown, N. J., left in the *Quaker City* last week to supersede Capt. PALMER, (now in command of the *Iroquois*,) and see if he can catch the *Sumter*.

Capt. BELCHER'S Rhode Island battery, six guns, 156 men, which has been at Alexandria for the past ten weeks, arrived at Annapolis, by a special train from Washington, on the evening of the 24th, and will go with the Burnside expedition.

Recruiting for Commodore D. D. PORTER'S mortar fleet is energetically prosecuted in the Eastern States. Every man will be paid two month's advance and permitted to leave an allotment to his family, commencing from the date of enlistment.

Col. WINDHAM, the English rifleman, who distinguished himself during the Italian war, under GARIBALDI, and who served in the Sardinian army for six years, having offered his services to the United States Government, has been appointed to a position in the Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiment.

A letter from a member of the Thirteenth Regiment, who was sent to Tortugas last September among the mutineers, states that he and his fellows have been released from arrest, and are awaiting the arrival of a steamer to take them to Washington, where they are to rejoin their respective regiments.

The General Term of the Supreme Court have rendered their decision in the case of MCCOTTER against the City, often reported in the TIMES, reversing the plaintiff's judgment for $138,309 25, and ordering a new trial. It will be remembered that the action was brought to compel the City to consummate the purchase of certain lands on Ward's Island. A number of criminal cases were also disposed of by the same Court.

The action of the Government in releasing Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL was very favorably spoken of by business men yesterday. Breadstuffs attracted more attention from shippers, and prices of desirable lots were firmer. Cotton was steady but inactive. Groceries were quiet, operations having been checked by the discussion of the recent order of Secretary CHASE, instructing the Customs authorities to levy the advanced duties, not only upon all arrivals subsequent to the enactment of the law of the 25th inst., but also upon all merchandise now in bond, entered under the previous tariff act. Merchants contend that this order is unjustifiable by law or precedent, and that it cannot be executed. Pork was inactive, while a lively business was reported in Bacon, Lard, and tierce Beef; also in Tallow, Hay and Whisky—the latter at firmer rates. Resin was in fair request and Common was dearer. Freights were not active, but rates were generally well supported. The movements in other branches of trade were restricted.

FRENCH DIPLOMACY IN THE TRENT AFFAIR.—The diplomatic correspondence which the affair of the *Trent* has called forth between the French Government and our own, though of subsidiary importance, as compared with the great argument between the two Powers directly involved, yet possesses some features of remarkable interest; and the lucid dispatch from M. THOUVENEL to the French Minister at Washington may be read with advantage by those who would learn the varying aspects the case presents when seen in the light of the public law of different nations.

If the Government of the United States had not happily closed, by an act of honorable surrender, all discussion as to the legality of the case, it would not be difficult to show that there are some portions of M. THOUVENEL'S reasoning that we cannot agree with him in regarding as conclusive. It is to be remembered, however, that his judgment of the case is but an application of those doctrines of Neutral Right, which France has long proclaimed and practiced, and that the traditional policy of France gives him a right to interpret the privileges of neutrals with a rigor which England can hardly claim to exercise. The very fact that, while the policy of France and the United States has always accorded, in seeking to establish the most liberal principles concerning the rights of neutral States, there is not an entire agreement between the two nations concerning the application of those principles, adds the more force to the wish expressed by Mr. SEWARD in his reply to the French Minister, that the occasion should be improved so as to secure a more definite agreement upon the whole subject by the maritime Powers.

In one respect this correspondence is in the highest degree gratifying and satisfactory. It shows conclusively that the conduct of the French Government in this international dispute, at one time so menacing, has been in the highest degree open, conciliatory and pacific. There is not the slightest evidence of that underhanded policy with which the present Emperor has been so often charged; and whatever suspicions of sinister designs, looking toward interference in our troubles, on the part of NAPOLEON III., may have been awakened in the United States, there is nothing in his course in the late unhappy difficulty that is not at once frank and friendly.

The Surrender of Mason and Slidell.

The correspondence to which we give place this morning quiets apprehension of war arising out of the seizure of MASON and SLIDELL. So far, indeed, as these documents throw light upon the matter, no grounds of apprehension have at any time existed; for nothing can be more calm and reasonable than the dispatch of Lord RUSSELL requiring satisfaction, and nothing more evident than that the President has from the first been convinced of the defects in the American case, and prepared to discuss the topic without dogmatic adherence to an *ex parte* opinion.

As an exhaustive presentation of the entire matter, and so much of international law as relates to it, the dispatch of Mr. SEWARD deserves unqualified admiration. One after the other, the grounds upon which Great Britain founds the theory of intentional wrong and outrage are cleared away. Capt. WILKES is shown to have acted wholly without suggestion or instruction; and the first advices of his action are represented as exciting the utmost surprise at Washington. Reciting the facts as verified to this Government by the officers of the *San Jacinto*, the Secretary of State shows how entirely absent was all intention on their part of inflicting an insult upon the British flag, or of exceeding in the least degree the urgency necessary to the performance of what Capt. WILKES believed to be his authorized and bounden duty. It is shown how disadvantageously, and, in one or two particulars, how falsely the officers of the *Trent* had reported occurrences attending the search, thus giving an offensive color to proceedings characterized by the utmost delicacy and consideration. Even that departure from formal rule, by which the *Trent* was permitted to pursue its voyage, rather than obliged to accompany the frigate to an American port as a prize, is set forth in its true character, as a concession to international courtesy.

Having stated the data in this more impartial light, Mr. SEWARD states the arguments with the same clearness and fairness. He applies to the case the English interpretation of maritime law; and, while he finds authority for much that Capt. WILKES did, he finds none for the omission to determine the culpability of the *Trent* in a court of admiralty, before proceeding to take passengers from her deck on the mere assumption that she had forfeited her neutral privileges. The propriety of this or any other distinct course, Mr. SEWARD confesses, is not clearly manifested in the books; but of all doubtful points he sees the justice of giving a friendly Power the benefit. He also shows that, in making this concession, he adheres to the traditional policy of his Government in curtailing, as far as practicable, an obnoxious maritime principle, for the limitation of which we have made one war, and have in two instances shown our readiness to make others. For these reasons he places the persons of the rebel envoys and their secretaries at the disposal of Lord LYONS, who is invited to prepare for their immediate transfer to the protection of the British flag. The British Government thus obtains the restitution it exacted. It also exacted an apology; but, having demonstrated the absence of all design to inflict insult or damage, Mr. SEWARD has rendered apology impossible.

The intelligence of this amicable settlement of a dangerous issue was no doubt forwarded to England by three steamers, which sailed from American ports yesterday. It will unquestionably be received there with surprise. By the most wicked and deliberate system of misrepresentation, the British people have been taught to believe that the Government, and still more decidedly, the people of the United States, are obstinately bent upon a war. The Secretary of State has been systematically slandered as an inveterate advocate of a conflict with England; and it has been universally assumed that if, overruling the pugnacity of his Secretary, President LINCOLN should prefer a peaceful accommodation, the mass of the people, described as the "army" and the "mob," would so insist upon hostilities, that the rejection of Lord RUSSELL'S demands would be inevitable. We know how the correspondence now upon the ocean corrects these misconceptions. It will be found that the Cabinet has been a unit in approving a friendly settlement. It will be found that the determination of the Government has been accepted with entire satisfaction by the people. Indeed, long before the views of the President on the probable course of the negotiation had become public, it will be discovered that the Press had very generally urged the pacific policy which has actually been adopted. With these evidences before it, it will be difficult for the British Press to persist in its misrepresentation of our people—misrepresentations which it has passively accepted from the New York *Herald*, and those other agents of the rebellion whose field of labor is about the newspaper offices of London.

And the reception of this news will also test the sincerity of the English aversion for war. If it be genuine, the correspondence will be welcomed with unmistakable evidences of relief and gratification, and a new guarantee of continued peace will be furnished. But if the affair of the *Trent* is the cover for an aggressive and unfriendly policy; if a desire to break the blockade, and recognize the Southern Confederacy, with the delusive hope of great and immediate commercial advantages, be at the bottom of this warlike excitement, the concessions of the American Government will be received coolly and critically, and perhaps be denounced as insufficient. Should such be the case, we shall be warned of a hostile purpose in time to arm thoroughly against it.

THE PRIVILEGED CLASS IN COTTONDOM.—The Legislature of Mississippi enjoys a unique reputation for financial successes. Witness its happy method of honoring the bonds issued to the Planters' Bank, and other clever devices for postponing indefinitely and otherwise the payment of its debts. The latest exhibition of its skill in this direction is a resolution now pending for advancing to the planters twenty-five dollars for each bale of cotton they hold. The boldness of the scheme consists in this, that the Legislature is elected by and composed of planters, who either propose to raise the necessary funds by taxing themselves or by taxing others. In the former case they only take money from one pocket to place in the other; in the latter case, they vote the property of others as distressed as themselves into their private pockets. But this juggle is not the only curiosity of the business. The cotton has been bought and paid for by the rebel Government in Confederate bonds. It is simply in the custody of the planters, the most of it not yet baled and roped. It requires all the license of Mississippi legislation to justify the indemnification of a class of sufferers who have already been indemnified in full by a gratuity from the public treasury. But the planting interest is supreme in Mississippi; how can bankers, professional men, shopkeepers and mechanics help themselves?

A Word from Count Gasparin.

If any European has a right to address words of counsel to the people of the United States, it is certainly that noble French Protestant whose book on America is the one just and generous judgment that has yet been rendered on our cause. We mean of course, Count AGENOR DE GASPARIN, author of the *Uprising of a Great People*. In the last number of the leading Parisian paper—the *Journal des Débats*—we find a long letter from his pen on the international difficulty that so lately darkened our horizon with war-clouds. It is a word of peace and of impartiality—addressed to England and to the United States—and breathes that same spirit of calm faith and candor that pervades his book on America. As the affair that, at the time of his writing, seemed so threatening has already been happily settled, there is no need nor interest now to enter into the line of argument which he uses in order to show Englishmen what limitations the case presents to the absolute judgment pronounced upon it, to disentangle the act of Capt. WILKES from the falsities that adhered to it, and to allay the passionate effervescence of the British public. Accordingly, we confine ourselves to translating a few remarkable sentences from his counsel to Americans, that acquire a peculiar significance in view of the events of the past day or two:

"I have just written the name of Gen. SCOTT, and I have done so with a sentiment of joy. Any one that has read his letter must have realized, along with me that there exists in the United States a class of intelligent, moderate, patriotic men, capable of examining without passion the demands of England. These men are perfectly aware what, in the present situation of America, the maintenance of friendly relations with England is worth to-day. Whatever opinion they may form to themselves as to the legal question raised by the act of Capt. WILKES, they understand that no consideration can be put in the scale against the danger of bringing on the recognition of the Southern States, the violation of the blockade, and war with a powerful and friendly nation—a sister nation, sprung from the same blood, speaking the same language, devoted to the same mission of civilization and of liberty. No honorable sacrifice will be too costly that will avoid this deplorable result. Ah! I would they could but see with their own eyes, were it only for a moment, what is passing in Europe. Their enemies triumph; their friends are terror-stricken. We who have always loved America, and who love her the more now that she is suffering in a noble cause; we who have defended her, who have never ceased believing in her final triumph; in spite of her faults and her stops,—have felt all our hopes menaced at once; and it has seemed as though the ground were slipping from under us. No! we cannot believe that America will, out of mere lightheadedness, destroy in a moment the fruit of so much sacrifice and so many efforts. It would neither be patriotic nor dignified; it would be an act of folly and of suicide. * * * It should have been seen what rejoicing there is in the Secessionist camp here. They had begun to despair—recognition, that sole chance of the Slavery-defenders, seemed further off than ever. The recent successes of the National arms announced the commencement of great operations; the war was being transferred from the neighborhood of Washington to the very heart of South Carolina, and no other hope remained than the discontent that might arise this Winter at our great commercial cities. But lo! all of a sudden the situation changes, recognition becomes possible, the blockade is threatened, and the United States seem to be on the point of being forced to turn away from the South to meet a new and dreadful enemy.

Far from being a humiliation for the Government at Washington, the surrender of the prisoners will be one of its brightest glories. It will prove it to be possessed of high moral force, prove that it is calumniated when represented as the slave of the mob, incapable of withstanding the clamor of the street, and incapable of accepting an hour of unpopularity to assure the salvation of the Republic,"

Will it not greatly relieve the friends of the Union in France and Europe—whose situation is painted with such power by Count GASPARIN—that all, and more than all he pleads for on the part of the American Government and the American people, is already realized? It will heighten even his faith in America when he reads the dispatch of Mr. SEWARD, and learns, as he will from the journals, that not only was the Government not placed in the position of "unpopularity" by yielding the prisoners; that not only was there no "popular clamor" to withstand, but that the act simply embodied the conviction and the desire of the loyal people of America, whose moral force, it will gladden his heart to know, he underestimated rather than overestimated.

THE COLD AND THE CAMPAIGN.—The Richmond *Dispatch* of three days ago contains this suggestive hint:

"The splendid season of dry weather which we have had has hardened the earth, restored the roads, and prepared the way for a grand advance of the enemy wherever he is in force. *It is almost incredible that he will refuse to avail himself of the auspices which thus smooth his path.* The untoward affair on Friday last, at Dranesville, will probably inspire his soldiers with some confidence in themselves, and conspire with the excellent roads to invite an advance."

It is not often we are able to agree with a Richmond journal, but we have that satisfaction in this case, and assuredly the whole country will be gratified if the fact indicated can be considered as furnishing the key to the situation. There is no doubt that for the past six weeks the Virginia roads have been such as to render military movements on a large scale impracticable. The November rains broke them up, and the extraordinary mildness of December prolonged the season of universal mud—an enemy with which a modern army, with its heavy appurtenances and *impedimenta*, finds it next to impossible to cope. But the Christmas cold spell has changed all that, hardening the earth, restoring the roads, and paving a solid highway on which the Union forces may march on to the heart of rebeldom.

There is another fact which, if there were occasion for doubt, would go to show that we are on the threshold of an onward movement. It is that, notwithstanding the intense cold which our correspondents inform us has set in, the army of the Potomac is still under canvas. Any hutting that has been done has been in isolated cases, and, though we have now reached the dead of Winter, no general preparations for going into Winter quarters have been made. This fact admits of but one interpretation—namely, that it is the design to march the army of the Union to winter some degrees of latitude nearer the equator than the banks of the Potomac.

It would certainly show an insensibility with which we should be loth to think them chargeable, if those whom the people have put in the high places of civil and military trust, should either misinterpret, or be unappreciative of the generous forbearance and confiding submission which both the public and the Press have shown these weary months. Such appreciation is to be manifested by making it clear to the nation that *there will not be an hour's delay beyond what military considerations rigorously exact.* If it be that a couple of months will bring us to the end of Virginia's brief Winter, when the Spring rains and thaws shall again have rendered operations as impracticable as they have been for the past six weeks, it would be too much to expect of a people, however patient, that delays so unaccountable should be submitted to without vigorous complaint.

An Historical Coincidence.

Our Government has surrendered the *four* persons taken from the British steamer *Trent*, and has tendered an apology to the Government for the violence offered to her flag. This is not the first time in which a similar proceeding has taken place. One of the incidents which preceded the War of 1812 was of a somewhat similar character, though not quite parallel in all respects. In 1808 a British man-of-war sent on board the American frigate *Chesapeake* and took from her *four* persons, who were claimed to be English subjects, without any other warrant or authority than the will of the officer commanding the vessel by which the outrage was perpetrated. Our Government at once demanded redress, and after a long correspondence and delay, the British Minister at Washington transmitted to the Secretary of State the following letter:

MR. FOSTER TO MR. MONROE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11, 1811.

SIR: In pursuance of the orders which I have received from His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, for the purpose of proceeding to a final adjustment of the differences which have arisen between Great Britain and the United States in the affair of the *Chesapeake* frigate, I have the honor to acquaint you—

First—That I am instructed to repeat to the American Government *the prompt disavowal made by His Majesty* (and recited in Mr. ERSKINE'S note of April 17, 1809, to Mr. SMITH), on being apprised of the unauthorized act of the officer in command of his naval forces on the coast of America, whose recall from a highly important and honorable command immediately ensued as a mark of His Majesty's disapprobation.

Secondly—That I am authorized to offer, in addition to that disavowal on the part of His Royal Highness, *the immediate restoration*, as far as circumstances will admit, *of the men who, in consequence of Admiral Berkley's orders, were forcibly taken out of the Chesapeake to the vessel from which they were taken*: or if that ship should be no longer in commission, to such seaport of the United States as the American Government may name for the purpose.

Thirdly—That I am also authorized to offer to the American Government *a suitable pecuniary provision for the sufferers* in consequence of the attack on the *Chesapeake*, including the families of those seamen who unfortunately fell in the action, and of the wounded survivors.

These honorable propositions, I can assure you, Sir, are made with the sincere desire that they may prove satisfactory to the Government of the United States, and I trust they will meet with that amicable reception which their conciliatory nature entitles them to. I need scarcely add how cordially I join with you in the wish that they might prove introductory to a removal of all the differences depending between our two countries.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest consideration and respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, AUG. J. FOSTER.

To Hon. JAMES MONROE, &c., &c., &c.

Although the cases were not parallel, inasmuch as the *Chesapeake* was a national vessel and the *Trent* only a merchant steamer, the coincidences between the circumstances are somewhat striking.

The Tragi-Comedy in Western Missouri.

The redoubtable PRICE and his army are now retreating through Western Missouri toward Arkansas for the third time. When LYON was after him, he ran very swiftly; when FREMONT pursued, he made fair time; and now he flees from the advancing *shadow* of POPE. For a month past, he has stood shivering by the south shore of the Osage River, looking across with longing eyes to the green fields and pastures new of Jackson, Lafayette and Saline Counties, yet fearing to launch his bark away. And now, at last, instead of boldly moving forward and confronting the Canaanites, he again skulks backward in his own tracks to the desert region that sweeps around the Ozark Mountains. Those of his men who did cross over the river were suddenly devoured by that son of Anak, Gen. POPE. And why should those still on the safe side of the stream venture over, when they know it will only be to exchange the free airs of the desert for the cadaverous atmosphere of the "St. Louis Medical College?"

It must be evident to PRICE and his men that their game in Missouri is ended, so far as the conquest of the State is concerned. His army, indeed, has now dwindled down to nothing but a big band of marauders. At last accounts it had reduced itself to some seven or eight thousand men; and these were held in cohesion mainly by devotion to their chief, and by the hope of booty. Their only work, for a long time, has been to plunder, harass and kill Union men; and, by every means, to spread the reign of anarchy and ruin over the State. Gov. CLAIB. JACKSON, too, had promised that all the property of the Missouri Unionists, amounting to some hundreds of millions, should be divided among the ragged ruffians as soon as they had achieved the conquest of the State; and this was a glittering prize for which to battle. They now see that it is beyond their grasp. Those who joined PRICE "only to have a fight," have now got enough of *that*, and are disbanding; those who joined in the hope of speedily subjugating the State, have become disgusted, disappointed and hopeless, and are deserting. Others are afraid of Gen. HALLECK'S retaliatory policy; others fear the chill blasts of Winter on the heaths of Western Missouri; and many who had been lured into rebellion by the gilded baits of the secession swindlers, now find that all is not gold that glitters, and are returning to loyalty and their homes. The agonizing appeals recently issued by Gen. PRICE, Gov. JACKSON, and the robber JEFF. THOMPSON, for help, show that dissolution has overtaken the great and conquering host that held possession of half the State a few months ago.

What remains of PRICE'S army, too, has just been virtually dissolved by the order of JEFF. DAVIS, transferring it from the service of the State of Missouri to that of the Confederate Government. The whole force is to be disbanded, and immediately reorganized as part and parcel of the Confederate army; and PRICE himself is to be superseded by some of JEFF. DAVIS' appointees. But it will never be reorganized. A few thousand rebels will go from Missouri and enter JEFF. DAVIS' regular army, but there will never again in that State be such an uprising of rebels as there was in early Summer. The inveterate rebels and robbers will divide themselves into small gangs, scatter over the State, and plunder and fight for a time in guerilla style. But the just and severe policy of Gen. HALLECK will soon bring these also to the rope's end.

Whether Gen. POPE will now pursue the retreating PRICE for any distance, is doubtful. Nothing could be gained by the pursuit; and it would be impossible to catch him without going hundreds of miles from the base of operations and the source of supplies. The people of Southern Missouri will undoubtedly suffer severely during the Winter from his ravages; but if they wish to get rid of him and his marauders, they must everywhere raise loyal Home Guards, as they are now doing in some of the southwestern counties, and maintain the peace for themselves.

As a campaign, operations in Missouri may be said to close with this retreat of PRICE. It will be impossible for the rebels to march up again through those chilly and cheerless regions of Western Missouri this Winter. As for the Arkansas rebels under MCCULLOCH, who have helped PRICE to ravage Missouri, they will undoubtedly find work in their own State before long.

NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Affairs in Rebeldom—Fears of an Attack at Yorktown—The Norfolk Day Book Suspended—Movements in Kentucky, &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Dec. 27, *Via* Baltimore, Saturday, Dec. 28.

A flag of truce this morning took to Craney Island Rev. Mr. BROWN, a rebel Chaplain, and a lady. No passengers were brought down.

Gen. BURNSIDE is expected to arrive here to-morrow to consult with Gen. WOOL and Commodore GOLDSBOROUGH in relation to his contemplated movements.

Considerable excitement prevails in Yorktown in anticipation of an attack. All the sick were removed on the 21st, by order of Gen. MAGRUDER.

The publication of the Norfolk *Day Book* was suspended yesterday for the want of a supply of paper. A copy of to-day's issue was brought down by the flag of truce, from which we extract a dispatch, dated Augusta, Ga., Dec. 26, which says that a passenger and freight-car collided about one mile from there on that afternoon. Three persons had received broken legs, and several horses were killed.

The Norfolk *Day Book* says that WINANS' steamer came into the Roads on Wednesday, and was still there yesterday. The *Keystone State* was perhaps mistaken for the *Winans*.

The Norfolk *Day Book* learns that Gen. SCOTT had arrived in New-York; that he left England at the request of the English authorities, and that they were about to declare war against the United States.

A dispatch from Nashville the 25th says that TOM. CRITTENDEN, with 12,000 men, was within forty miles of Hopkinsville, and would advance upon that place at three points. The Southern Rights citizens there are sending their families and stock to the South.

The banking house, a Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Glasgow, was taken possession of by the rebels on the 24th. Only $7,000 in Kentucky bills were found.

JOHN G. DAVIS, a member of the National Congress from the Seventh District of Indiana, has arrived at Hopkinsville, on his way to Richmond, but for what purpose it is not stated.

A force of not less than 60,000 men, the advance of Gen. BUELL'S army, has crossed Green River, and is within five miles of Gen. HINDMAN'S advance. Great preparations have been made for the defence of Bowling Green, and a terrible conflict is said to be impending.

Extension of Telegraph Lines in Canada.

MONTREAL, Friday, Dec. 27.

The recent announcement, through Canadian papers, that the military authorities have decided to build a telegraph line between Quebec and Halifax, was at least premature, as no decision has yet been made by the proper authorities. The existing Telegraph Company of Canada has, we learn, in serious contemplation the extension of their Father Point line, some 200 miles to Cape Rozier, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, *via* Campbelltown, at the head of the Bay of Chalons. If this enterprise should be carried out, the news by the Canadian line of steamers will be received at least one day earlier than heretofore, by way of Father Point, and the extended wires will also bring into telegraphic connection several very important fishing stations on the lower Gulf shore. Should the line be extended, as proposed, to Cape Rozier, it is understood that the steamers to and from Quebec and Liverpool will make that a port of call next season.

Slaver Cases in Boston.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 28.

APPLETON OAKSMITH, of New-York, an alleged accomplice of SKINNER, who was recently convicted of fitting out the ship *Margaret Scott*, at New-Bedford, for a slaver, was before Judge SPRAGUE, of the United States Circuit Court to-day, charged with such complicity. He plead not guilty, and was required to give bail in the sum of five thousand dollars to appear for trial in March. OAKSMITH was recently lodged in Fort Lafayette, charged with fitting out the slaver *Augusta*, and a week since was transported to Fort Warren.

The yacht *Wild Pigeon*, at this port, has been seized on suspicion of fitting out for a slaver. It is probable that she will be released on the owners giving bonds not to engage in the slave-trade.

Reception to Hon. J. Glancy Jones.

READING, Penn., Friday, Dec. 27.

The Mayor and Councils of Reading, without distinction of party, have resolved to give a public reception to Hon. J. GLANCY JONES, Ex-Minister to Austria, who returned in the *Arago*.

Death of a Prominent Citizen.

PITTSBURGH, Friday, Dec. 27.

Hon. W. B. MCCLURE, for many years President Judge of the Quarter Sessions of this county, died early this morning. He was highly esteemed by the whole community as an upright Judge.

The Niagara at Boston.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 28.

The steamship *Niagara*, from Halifax, arrived here at 4½ o'clock this afternoon.

The newspaper-bag for the Associated Press was sent from here, in charge of Adams' Express Messenger, by the night train, which is due in New-York at an early hour to-morrow (Sunday) morning.

The Mails also went in the same train.

Personal.

Rev. GEORGE GORDON, who is in jail in Cleveland (O.) for having been over zealous in attempting to secure a fugitive slave his freedom, was called upon a few days ago by a couple who wished to be married. The reverend gentleman complied with the request promptly.

CITY AND COUNTY AFFAIRS.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

HEALTH COMMISSIONERS—DRILL-ROOM FOR THE THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT—ELECTION SPORTS—THE RAILROAD BILL OF THE COUNCILMEN CONCURRED IN.

At the meeting of the Board, last evening, the usual appropriation of $200 was passed to compensate the Presidents of the Aldermen and Councilmen for services as Commissioners of Health.

A resolution to provide a drill-room for the new Thirty-seventh Regiment, elicited considerable debate and a general expression of opinion by several members of the Board, that all the energies and the resources of the City are needed to aid the army now engaged in actual war.

Aldermen BRADY and Alderman BOOLE favored granting the appropriation, complimenting the regiment to most efficient and deserving.

The appropriation of $2,000 was passed by a vote of 14 to 3.

A report from the Finance Committee, in favor of refunding James F. Murray for damage done to his residence to the amount of $115 62, on the night of election, by a mob, was adopted.

The Board concurred with the Councilmen in passing the appropriation, $300, for two safes for the City Inspector's Department.

The Board passed an appropriation of $250, for extra services of the clerk, Mr. Beren.

The Board indulged in considerable pleasantry over a bill remaining to $775, for the engrossing and framing of complimentary resolutions to the President of the last Board. The appropriation was finally passed.

The Board concurred with the Councilmen in permitting the extension of the route of the Manhattanville Line of Stages to Harlem Bridge, from One Hundred and Twenty-fifth-street via Tenth-avenue.

The Railroad Bill as passed by the Board of Councilmen came up for consideration. Aldermen FROMENT, DAYTON and BAGLEY entered a written protest against acting on the paper this evening.

Alderman GERRY moved the repeal of Rule 12, which prevented the Board from acting on the paper this evening, under the operation of the previous question. The rule was repealed. The paper was read by the reader. Alderman GERRY moved the concurrence, and called the previous question.

Aldermen FROMENT and DAYTON stated that they wished it understood that their protest was intended to meet the case.

Alderman DAYTON raised the point that the proposed action was in direct conflict with the City Charter, but was ruled out of order.

The previous question was ordered, and the concurrence was made, Aldermen BAGLEY, BARRY, DAYTON, BOOTH, FROMENT and RUSSELL voting in the negative.

The Board adjourned to Monday afternoon.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

"THE GRIDIRON" RAILROAD GRANT CONFIRMED—INJUNCTION ISSUED AS TO PORT GANSEVOORT PROPERTY—THE NEW-YORK TIMES AND WORLD DECLARED OFFICIAL PAPERS.

At a special meeting of the Board of Councilmen, held yesterday afternoon, a petition was presented by J. TUCKER, asking permission to lay tracks in the streets named in the act of incorporation, better known as the "Gridiron" Railroad bill, passed at Albany, April 17, 1860, vetoed by the Governor, but passed over his veto.

Mr. ORTON characterized this measure as one of the greatest outrages ever perpetrated in the history of our legislation, but felt that any objections that he might urge would be fruitless, as the passage of the resolutions granting the prayer and petition was evidently predestined.

Mr. BARNEY, although at first opposed to this grant, had after canvassing the district which he represented, come to the conclusion that the interests of his constituents demanded this road, and he should therefore vote in favor of it.

Mr. LENT strenuously opposed the measure, and urged strongly that in view of the great interests involved, a reference should be had to investigate it, and he accordingly so moved.

Mr. SWANSTON advocated the project, and although he saw no objection to a reference, he hoped the resolution would pass.

Mr. ORTON again opposed the granting of a monopoly without compensation, for which responsible parties have offered to pay more than a million of dollars.

Mr. PINCKNEY also opposed the grant, and wished it deferred to see if any Committee would dare report in its favor.

The motion to refer was lost—Ayes, 10; Noes, 13.

Mr. LENT then moved to reduce the fare to three cents, which was lost—Ayes, 10; Noes, 13—after which Mr. HOGAN called the previous question, which was met by a motion to adjourn, but it was lost.

Mr. HOGAN withdrew his motion, and various amendments were proposed, but voted down, as was a motion to lay on the table and print.

All kinds of motions were made and lost, the friends of the measure being determined to see it safely through, and further debate was finally cut off by an order for the previous question, which created great confusion.

Mr. ORTON and Mr. PINCKNEY rose to points of order, but they were declared out of order. The previous question being ordered, Mr. ORTON presented a protest, as did Mr. PINCKNEY, which the Chair declared should not be received, and proceeded to take the vote on the main question, which resulted as follows: Ayes—Barney, Hogan, Hazleton, Shannon, Miller, Ryan, Gross, Kepper, Stevenson, Long, Brice, Brandon and Curnen—13. Noes—Smith, Hall, Jones, Lent, Keech, Orton, Cleveland, Ottiwell, Pinckney and Trotter—9.

Mr. HOGAN offered a resolution calling upon the Corporation Counsel to furnish an opinion at the next meeting of the Board as to the validity of an injunction from the Court of Common Pleas, in the matter of the proposed purchase of the Fort Gansevoort property, which has been served on certain members of the Board, prohibiting further action. In presenting it, Mr. HOGAN offered, also, an affidavit of JAMES B. TAYLOR, denying the charge made against him by Alderman DAYTON. A long discussion ensued upon the question of sending the affidavit to Mr. BRONSON. The resolutions were adopted, and

Mr. ORTON offered a resolution to appoint a Special Committee to inquire into the charge preferred by Mr. DAYTON against Mr. TAYLOR, and to send for persons and papers. Adopted.

Mr. KEECH then called up a resolution, heretofore offered by him, appointing the NEW-YORK TIMES a Corporation paper. Mr. HOGAN moved a reference, which was lost—Ayes 6, Noes 13; and the resolution was adopted. Ayes—Barney, Hall, Smith, Hazleton, Lent, Keech, Orton, Ottiwell, Stevenson, Long, Pinckney, Trotter, Brice—13.

The Mayor's veto, on making the *World* a Corporation paper, was then taken up, and carried, notwithstanding his objections—Ayes, 15; Noes, 4.

The Board, after disposing of some routine business, adjourned.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

CORONERS' INQUESTS.—Coroner SCHIRMER on Friday held an inquest on the body of MARY E. WALLACE, a child aged 6 years, who died from burns accidentally received on Christmas day, at No. 326 West Forty-seventh-street....An unknown man was found dead in the upper part of a building on the corner of Catharine-slip and South-street, Friday afternoon The cause of his death is believed to have been intemperance. The Coroner was notified....A child named HANNAH TWOMEY, was accidentally burned to death Friday at No. 140 Cherry-street. Its mother had left the child alone in the room for a few minutes, and when she returned found it in flames. It died soon after. Coroner SCHIRMER held an inquest.... GEORGE FAULKNER died at the New-York Hospital Friday from injuries received by falling through the hatchway of WILSON'S bakery, No. 73 Fulton-street, where he was employed. He was a native of Ireland, aged 23 years....WILSON WELLS died Friday at the New-York Hospital from the effects of a fall which occurred while at work at the new building corner of Fifth-avenue and Fourteenth-street....MARGARET CASSERLY was scalded to death on Friday at No. 648 Second-avenue, by falling into a kettle of boiling water. Coroner SCHIRMER held an inquest upon the body.

A CONFIDENCE MAN AMONG THE BOARDING-HOUSE KEEPERS.—EDWARD PERRY was arrested, on Friday, upon the charge of swindling and larceny. On the evening of Nov. 27, he went to the boarding-house of MARY BLANVEY, No. 347 Third-avenue, engaged board and remained until the next morning. During the night he stole, from the apartments which he occupied, one silk dress, worth $20, and $26 in money, and left early in the morning. About three days ago the same man called at the boarding-house of MARGARET FEATHERLY, No. 92 East Thirty-second-street, and engaged board for one month. He remained during the following night, but early next morning left upon the pretence that he was going to Brooklyn for his trunks. After he had gone, the lady of the house discovered that he had taken with him one new overcoat, worth $20; one dress-coat, $15; a vest and pair of pants, worth $12; four shirts, $6, and money to the amount of $24. Justice QUACKENBUSH, before whom the accused was taken, committed him in default of $1,000 bail.

CHANGES AMONG THE POLICE.—*Appointments.*—Hugh Fullerton, to the Tenth Precinct; Francis Witney, to the Twenty-fourth; and John S. Walkinshaw, to the Twenty-seventh.

Resignations.—John Tavommey, of the Third District Court; George Hopper, of the Fifteenth Precinct; Henry Giraud, of the Third; and Henry M. Gardner, of the Twenty-first.

Dismissed.—Sergeant Mead, of the Eleventh Precinct.

Promoted.—Officer Moore, who has recently figured so extensively in connection with the case of Charles Edwards, (convicted for the murder of John W. Mathews,) has been promoted to the position of a regular detective. This has been done by the Police Board, in consideration of the valuable services rendered by that officer in ferreting out the man who committed the double homicide.

OUR STREET CHILDREN.—The Directors of the Juvenile Asylum have had under their charge in 1861 a monthly average of more than five hundred children gathered from the streets. Six companies, about fifty each, after careful training, have been selected and sent out to Illinois this year, under charge of Mr. ALLEN, the indentured agent, who, in addition to securing good homes for them, has visited a large number sent into that State the past five years, and reports favorably of their condition and prospects. The sixth company took their departure on Monday, to attend a meeting in Chicago on Christmas Day, on their way to the interior.

FIRE IN EAST TWELFTH-STREET.—At 8½ o'clock yesterday morning, a fire occurred at No. 51 East Twelfth-street, on the second floor of a three-story brick building, occupied by JOHN H. HARRINGTON, boat-builder. His damage will amount to about $250. He is insured in the North River Insurance Company for $300. The lower floor was occupied by J. WEINSMITH, barber. His loss in stock and fixtures is $100. The building is owned by T. B. PEDDIS, and it was damaged about $100—fully insured in the Harmony Insurance Company. The fire was caused by a light being brought into an apartment where there was a leakage from the gas pipe.

FIRE IN AN OIL-CLOTH MANUFACTORY.—At 1 o'clock, on Friday morning, a fire was discovered in the basement of the five-story brick building No. 43 Jay-street, occupied by WM. A. TOOKER, as an oil-cloth manufactory. The flames soon extended to the first and second stories, damaging the stock to the amount of $1,500. Mr. TOOKER is insured in the Rutger's, Commonwealth, and St. Mark's Insurance Companies, $2,000 each. The building is owned by GEORGE W. and JOHN H. WELSH. It was damaged about $250, and is fully insured.

FIRE IN A GROCERY STORE.—About 1½ o'clock on Saturday morning, a fire was discovered in a grocery store at No. 369 Greenwich-street, occupied by JOHN HILDEBRAND, caused by the stove-pipe being placed too near the wood-work. The damage to the stock and fixtures in the grocery was about $150. HILDEBRAND is insured in the Germania Insurance Company for $800. The building is owned by Mr. PELTON. It was damaged to the extent of $100. Insured in the Howard Insurance Company.

FIRE IN SOUTH-STREET.—At 5½ o'clock last evening a fire broke out in the ship chandlery store of JOSEPH MCMURRAY, No. 59 South-street, caused by spontaneous combustion. Damage about $1,000; fully insured in the Clinton Insurance Company.

THE DELTA PSI CONVENTION.—The annual meeting of the Grand Chapter of the "Delta Psi" took place in this City at past week. the Society's rooms, on Friday and Saturday of the None of the Southern Chapters were represented, though letters were read that assured the Convention that whatever difficulties might exist of a political nature, the Delta Psi fraternity were harmonious. The oration and poem which were to have been delivered before the Grand Chapter, by H. N ELDRIDGE, Esq., of Chicago, and Rev. JOHN I. MINER of Maine, were of necessity postponed till next year.

THE HOMICIDE CASE IN GREENWICH-STREET.—JOHN MORTON, who was stabbed and beaten so seriously on Christmas night, as reported in the TIMES, died yesterday morning at his residence, No. 151 Hammond-street. The Coroner was immediately notified, and yesterday afternoon he proceeded to the late residence of deceased, for the purpose of holding an inquest. Owing to the absence of some material witnesses, the investigation was adjourned until this afternoon at 1½ o'clock. The parties charged with the homicide are in custody at Jefferson Market Prison.

MORRISON'S BATTERY.—MORRISON'S Battery, attached to Col. LUDLOW'S Nineteenth Regiment New-York Volunteers, is now being recruited in this City by Capt J. J. MORRISON, formerly commanding Company A, Ninth Regiment, now in the field. Quarters have been obtained at Palace Garden, where every attention is paid to the comfort of the men, and great advantages are offered to young, able-bodied men. The headquarters are on the corner of University-place and Thirteenth-street.

GEN. SCOTT IN NEW-YORK.—Gen. SCOTT remained at his hotel all day Friday, and was visited by many citizens of note. He was enabled, however, to grant an audience to but few. He will no doubt remain in the City a few days, and then proceed to Washington. His health is much improved by his trip abroad.

A SERIOUS SHOOTING ACCIDENT.—About 11 o'clock on Friday night, FRANCIS C. GILMORE, living at No. 42 Second-street, while engaged in the examination of a loaded pistol, accidentally shot himself in the left temple. The wound is of such a nature that the surgeons who attended him pronounced it fatal.

FOUND DROWNED.—About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Officer BURNS, of the First Precinct, discovered the body of a male child, about eight months old, floating in Whitehall-slip. It had the appearance of being but a few minutes in the water. It is supposed that the child had been thrown from the water-closet at the Hamilton Ferry.

WEEKLY REPORT OF THE NEW-YORK HOSPITAL to Dec. 27, 1861:

	Surgical.	Medical.	Total.
Remaining on Dec. 20	144	137	281
Admitted to Dec. 27	25	18	43
Discharged, cured or relieved	24	28	52
Died	2	3	5
Remaining at date	143	124	267

Males, 243; females, 24.

LOCAL MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

THE SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT AND A WAR WITH ENGLAND.

At a meeting of the Board of Officers of the Sixty-ninth Regiment, N. Y. S. M., held at their armory, on Saturday last, the following preamble and resolutions were moved by Quartermaster TULLY, seconded by Lieut. BRESLIN, and adopted unanimously:

Whereas, The United States are now threatened with interference by England in the civil strife that the rebellion of a portion of her people has caused to rage in a section of the Union; and whereas, we are bound in duty and gratitude, as adopted citizens, to maintain the Constitution, laws and honor of this nation against the world; and whereas, in England we shall recognize the hated foe and heartless oppressor of our fathers, and the cruel persecutor of most of ourselves, and of those with whom we are most united in sympathy; and whereas, whilst we shall regret to see the horrors and calamities of war multiplied, we prefer even this to any base concessions unworthy of the position of this Republic amongst the nations, or derogatory to the honorable pride and acknowledged valor of its people; therefore,

Resolved, That this regiment tender its services to the Government for the defence of the seaboard and frontier, particularly of this State, in case of war with a foreign Power, and during the whole war.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to attend to the publication of these Resolutions.

Quartermaster Tully, Lieut. Breslin, Lieut. Sullivan, Captain Butler, and Lieut. McQuade were appointed such committee.

MAJOR JAMES BAGLEY, Chairman.
Capt. WM. BUTLER, Secretary.

ARRIVAL OF THE THIRD BATTALION OF THE FIRST REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY.

The Third Battalion (the First arrived here on Thursday) of the First Regiment Massachusetts Cavalry reached here, from its encampment at Readville, yesterday. After a short stay at the Park Barracks, where both men and horses were refreshed, they were about to proceed to the New-Jersey Central Railroad to take the cars for Washington, when Col. FRANK E. HOWE received orders by telegraph from Gen. THOMAS to detain the battalion in New-York. Arrangements were made by Col. Howe as speedily as possible to quarter the men and horses in the city until further orders.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF THE FIRST BATTALION FIFTH RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

Five companies of the Fifth Rhode Island Regiment, under command of Major WAGNER, arrived in this city yesterday *en route* for Annapolis, in order to be attached to Gen. BURNSIDE'S Division. The battalion numbers about 400 men, all of whom are thoroughly equipped and armed with the Enfield rifle. Annexed is a list of the officers, the Colonel and Lieut.-Colonel not having as yet been appointed.

Major, Job Wright; Adjutant, Chas. H. Chapman; Quartermaster, Monro H. Gladding; Chaplain, Rev. Walter B. Noyes (Episcopal); Assistant-Surgeon, Albert Potter. Company A—Captain, Jonathan M. Wheeler; First Lieutenant, Daniel S. Remington; Second Lieutenant not appointed. Company B—Captain, A. G. Wright; First Lieutenant, W. W. Hall; Second Lieutenant, W. W. Douglas. Company C—Captain, J. M. Eddy; First Lieutenant, John E. Snow; Second Lieutenant, G. G. Hopkins. Company D—Captain, G. H. Grant; First Lieutenant, H. R. Pierce; Second Lieutenant, J. Moran. Company E—Captain, Job Arnold; First Lieutenant not appointed; Second Lieutenant, J. M. Wheaton.

The Prize Schooner Charity Wrecked off Hempstead Beach.

The prize schooner *Charity*, captured off Hatteras Inlet, the 17th of December, by the steamer *Stars and Stripes*, and placed in charge of GEORGE ASHBURY, master of the same, to be taken to this port, was wrecked off Hempstead Beach, last Tuesday morning. She was laden with a cargo of salt, sugar, coffee, clothing, boots and shoes, &c. She was wrecked about two miles from the beach.

Mr. ASHBURY reports that the *Charity* was originally from Providence, R.I., and that her papers were made out for some port north of Maryland. She is a vessel of about 137 tons, and is considered a total wreck. The crew, which consisted of Mr. ASHBURY and seven others, saved themselves by means of the small boat belonging to the schooner, in which they reached the beach after many hairbreadth escapes from the breakers, in a state of entire exhaustion. Much credit is due to Mr. ASHBURY for the presence of mind displayed by him, and to which alone the preservation of the lives of his men is due. Some of the cargo of the vessel is saved. Mr. ASHBURY states that the vessels left at Hatteras Inlet are the *Stars and Stripes*, *Underwriter*, *Putnam* and *Seriex*. The force at that place consists of HAWKINS' Zouaves, one Pennsylvania Regiment and a few regulars. At a very high tide Fort Hatteras is completely surrounded with water, and it is thought that the force is not sufficient to hold the place against a large number of the enemy.

The Herald and the Meeting on the City of Washington.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

As the New-York *Herald* persists in affecting disbelief in the genuineness of the names of the gentlemen who participated in those proceedings, and utterly closes its columns to the publication of the "information" it so anxiously desires, it may be proper for me to acquaint the public, that I left such a communication at that office, with my name and address on Friday last, and yet this morning appears the amazing assertion that a day's diligent search "had found them not."

If ordinary consistency, to say nothing of honesty, had any weight in this matter, the editor mighttturn to his own files of a week previous, where the names appear in the usual list of passengers; but he naturally prefers to attack the signers, instead of letting the public know *what* they subscribed to.

As for my fellow-passengers, they were from different parts of the country; and abundantly able, as they doubtless are, to vindicate themselves, will probably do it when so disposed. And as to the fastidiousness which disinclines many to have either contact or controversy with the *Herald*, I confess that thirty years' residence in this City, has led me to believe I have entirely outgrown it.

JOHN H. TOBITT, No. 1 Franklin-square.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.

Obituary.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Dec. 28.

JOHN C. LEGRAND, Ex-Chief Justice of Maryland, died this forenoon.

The Best Books for Holiday Presents.—Beautifully bound ENGLISH BIBLES, UNITED STATES EPISCOPAL PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH SERVICES, &c., in endless variety of size and price. PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS in elegant styles.
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE.
No. 626 Broadway, New-York.

Downing's Pickled Oysters and Boned-TURKEYS FOR NEW-YEAR'S DAY.—The 60,000 Oysters being pickled by me, cannot be beat, nor my boned-turkeys. Those needing them will please give me their orders immediately; it will accommodate me. No. 3 Broad-st.

A Splendid Assortment of Gents' Wool and Silk Undergarments for Winter wear, Army, Navy and Traveling Shirts, Knit Wool Jackets, as also a complete variety of fine Shirts, Collars, Hosiery, Gloves, Scarfs, Ties, etc., at retail by
SILLECK & CO.,
corner Fulton and William sts.

At Retail,
Musical Boxes, playing from 2 to 24 tunes.
Toy Musical Boxes, playing 1, 2, 3 or 4 tunes.
Watches, gold and silver, at all prices.
M. J. PAILLARD, Importer,
No. 21 Maiden-lane, (up stairs,) New-York.

Espenscheid's Winter or Festival Hat.—This matchless fabric, a confessed improvement on the court style just issued in Paris, is now ready for inspection and sale at ESPENSCHEID'S, Manufacturer of Gents' Hats, No. 118 Nassau-st.

Merry Christmas and Happy New-Year.—Ladies, if you wish for yourselves and families gaiters and button-boots, Balmorals, boys' patent leathers, gents' embroidered slippers, forming useful and appropriate gifts for the holidays, patronize MILLER & CO., 337 Canal-st.

Trusses.—MARSH & CO.'S Radical Cure Truss, No 2 Vesey-st., opposite the church. All kinds of Trusses, Supporters, (Military Shoulder Braces and Dr. Wadsworth's Uterine Elevator,) Elastic Stockings, and Mechanical appliances for Deformities. (A female attends ladies.)

Boots and Shoes.—Gentlemen's custom-made Boots and Shoes—the stock of a Broadway boot-maker—now selling below cost of manufacture, at
SLATER'S, No. 2 Cortlandt-st., near Broadway.

Presents.—LADIES, MISSES AND CHILDREN cannot receive a more appropriate gift than can be selected from the assortment of gaiters, slippers and shoes, or a pair of Balmorals, from CANTRELL'S, No. 813 Broadway.

Men's Cheap Furnishing Store.—Gentlemen's ties, scarfs, handkerchiefs, gloves, hosiery, lambswool and merino undershirts and drawers—large assortment, cheap.
GEO. M. TRACY, Agent, No. 95 William-st.

Rich Scarfs for the Holidays.
D. C. SILLECK & COX,
No. 150 Broadway, corner Liberty-st.

MARRIED.

REDMAN—MAHAN.—On Thursday, Dec. 26, by Rev. John M. Krebs, Mr. JOSEPH E. REDMAN to Miss HELEN J. MAHAN, all of this City.

DIED.

ENGLE.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 28, ANN E., wife of Samuel Engle, aged 36 years.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Monday, 30th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., from her late residence, in Clinton-av., third door from Park-av.

☞ New-Bedford, Mass., papers please copy.

PUFFER.—In Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 27, of scarlet fever, GEORGE DREVAR, son of Geo. D. and Eliza G. Puffer, in the 2d year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at the residence of his parents, No. 50 2d-place, this day, (Sunday,) at 2 P. M. precisely.

ROBINSON.—In Brooklyn, on Friday, Dec. 27, Mrs. CAROLINE M. ROBINSON, in the 62d year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral services, this (Sunday) afternoon, at 1½ o'clock, at her late residence, No. 133 Amity-st., Brooklyn. Her remains will be taken to Greenwood Cemetery.

JANSEN.—In Williamsburgh, on Saturday, Dec. 28, at his late residence, No. 87 South 8th-st., JOHN JANSEN, in the 38th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral services, on Monday morning, Dec. 30, at 9 o'clock. His remains will be taken to Tarrytown for interment.

SCHUYLER.—In Pompton, N. J., on Wednesday, Dec. 25, of apoplexy, ISAAC SCHUYLER, Esq., in the 62d year of his age.

DELAFIELD.—At the General Hospital, Alexandria, Va., RUFUS DELAFIELD, Medical Cadet, United States Army, son of Rufus K. and Eliza Delafield, of this City, in the 22d year of his age.

Notice of funeral in to-morrow's edition.

REILLY.—At Camp Williams, Va., on Tuesday, Dec. 24, Sergeant ALEXANDER M. REILLY, Company M, First Regiment New-York Volunteer Cavalry, aged 28 years.

The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 40 Carroll-st., South Brooklyn, at 3 o'clock, on Monday, 30th inst.

☞ Detroit papers please copy.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S
KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 667.—Dec. 28, 1861.
4, 66, 44, 13, 5, 24, 29, 73, 56, 41, 6, 7.

KENTUCKY, CLASS 668.—Dec. 28, 1861.
20, 26, 46, 4, 27, 9, 23, 37, 25, 57, 29, 65, 21.

Circulars sent free of charge by addressing either to
MURRAY, EDDY & CO.,
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

TO ASTHMATICS.

SAMUEL KIDDER & CO.'S ASTHMATIC PASTILLES give instant relief. They are to burn and obviate the necessity of taking medicine. May be used by children or adults with equal success. For sale by Hegeman & Co., Nos. 161, 399, 511 and 756 Broadway, and 17th-st., corner of 4th-av.; J. Milhau & Son, No. 183 Broadway, and by all wholesale and retail druggists.

CHAPPED HANDS, FACE, LIPS, &c.
CERTAIN CURE AND PREVENTIVE.
HEGEMAN & CO.'S Camphor Ice, with Glycerine will keep the skin soft in the coldest weather. Sold by druggists generally.
Price 25 cents. Sent by mail on receipt of 30 cents.
HEGEMAN & CO., Nos. 161, 399, 511 and 756 Broadway.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
J. H. JOHNSTON & CO.,
No. 150 Bowery, corner Broome-st.,
OFFER AT WAR PRICES
FINE GOLD WATCHES.
FINE SILVER WATCHES.
DIAMOND RINGS, PINS, &c.
Jewelry of every description.
Sterling Silverware.
Fine plated-ware in Casters, Cake Baskets, Tea Sets, Urns, Salvers, Forks, Spoons, &c. Hair Jewelry, Jet Goods, &c., &c.
An inspection of our goods is solicited.

NO ENGLISH WATCHES FOR AMERICANS.
Who will buy an English Watch now-a-days, especially when American Watches are in every respect better and cheaper? Who wants a French Watch, which is good for nothing under any circumstances? Examine WILLIAM TAYLOR'S stock of American Watches before sending your money out of the country.
No. 264 Greenwich-st., near Warren.

DR. J. BOVEE DODS, THE WELL-KNOWN author of the Electrical Theory of the Universe, and of the Electrical Circulation of the Blood, has associated with him the celebrated Dr. A. WILLIAMS, Professor of Electrical Therapeutic Science, and opened rooms at No. 72 West 22d-st., near 6th-av., for the cure of all acute and chronic diseases by a richly-discovered mode of applying electricity in all its forms to the human system, accompanied by the use of the electro-magnetic buffline, and highly approved and recommended to be used in practice by the French Medical Board in Paris. Our mode of applying the therapeutic currents is entirely different from all other electricians in this country, and we cure where even medicine fails! Let the afflicted call and try us, and then judge us by our works.
☞ All consultations free. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

WIGS AND TOUPEES.
ORNAMENTAL HAIR—ALL KINDS.
HAIR DYE—BEST IN USE.
HAIR DYEING—ALL COLORS.
MOLDAVIA CREAM, for preserving, beautifying and forcing the hair to grow.
All these articles can be found, in greatest perfection, at W. A. BATCHELOR'S celebrated establishment, No. 16 Bond-st.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. WINSLOW, an experienced nurse and female physician, has a Soothing Syrup for children teething which greatly facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

George A. Fowler, of Guilford, writes under date of June 12, 1860:

Permit me to say to you that Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has an unprecedented sale with me since my customers have ascertained its merits. This is the first time, in a thirty-five years' drug business, that I have indorsed a medicine for intrinsic good qualities. I never before this wrote a recommendation of any patent medicine. I know not what its composition is, but I believe it is perfectly harmless and safe. I know it gives the greatest satisfaction to parents and nurses, affording relief and quietude, without any unpleasant effects attending its use. Yours, respectfully,
GEORGE A. FOWLER.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!! An old nurse for children. Don't fail to procure Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething. It has no equal on earth. No mother who has ever tried
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP
For Children will ever consent to let her child pass through the distressing and critical period of teething without the aid of this invaluable preparation. If life and health can be estimated by dollars and cents, it is worth its weight in gold.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

David Miller, of Clarence, New-York, writes, under date of June 13, 1860:

We have a child three months old, which has screamed almost incessantly with a spasmodic affection of the bowels, so that we had despaired of ever raising it. Its stomach was sour, bowels deranged, and almost every symptom was unfavorable, until we obtained a bottle of the SOOTHING SYRUP, which acted like a charm. It immediately became quiet, and now manifests every symptom of improvement and comfort. It is now as good as a little kitten, playful and smiling, and seems entirely well. All of which we ascribe to the use of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. Yours, respectfully,
DAVID MILLER.

We have spoken of this Syrup for the benefit of our readers who are parents. We know its good value, and have experienced some of the rich blessings which result from its use. Mrs. Winslow is no quack, but a woman of long experience as a nurse and female physician.

"I am happy to be able to certify to the efficiency of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and to the truth of what it is represented to accomplish. Having a little boy suffering greatly from teething, who could not rest, and at night by his cries would not permit any of the family to do so, I purchased a bottle of the Soothing Syrup. Its effect upon him was like magic; he soon went to sleep, and all pain and nervousness disappeared. We have had no trouble with him since, and the little fellow will pass through with comfort the excruciating process of teething, by the sole aid of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. Every mother who regards the health and life of her children, should possess it. MRS. H. A. ALGER.
LOWELL, MASS.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS AND IMITATIONS.
None genuine unless the fac-simile of CURTIS & PERKINS, New-York, is on the outside wrapper.
Sold by Druggists throughout the world.
Principal Office, No. 13 CEDAR-ST., NEW-YORK.
Price only 25 cents per bottle.
GREENWICH, N. J., Aug. 7, 1861.

Messrs. John I. Brown & Son, Boston, Mass.:
DEAR SIRS: I have been using your "Bronchial Troches" for a year or two. I find them to answer an excellent purpose. They have frequently proved a great relief to me when annoyed with dryness of the throat and huskiness of voice. I have no doubt they are quite as valuable to public speakers as MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is for children.
I at least have been soothed and comforted in the use of them. I can heartily recommend them.
(Signed,) J. R. PLITT,
Pastor Evangelical Lutheran Church.

THE READERS OF THE TIME
Will bear in mind that
E. ANTHONY, NO. 501 BROADWAY
(three doors from St. Nicholas Hotel,)
IS
HEADQUARTERS
FOR
PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS,
STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS,
AND
CARTE DE VISITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CELEBRITIES.
It will be unwise to buy before seeing his assortment. Will continue open in the evening until Jan. 1.

WANTED—BACK NUMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK TIMES, Oct. 10, 22,; Nov. 20; all of 1860. Twelve cents each will be paid for the above. Inquire of Sub-Clerk at this Office.

300 BLACK CLOTH DRESS COATS,
From the stock of a broken house,
Worth $16,
Selling for $8.
At EVANS', and 66 68 FULTON-ST.

500 BLACK OVERCOATS,
from the stock of a broken house,
Worth $6,
Selling for $3.
At EVANS', and 66 68 Fulton-st., between Gold and Cliff sts.

650 SILK MIXED CASSIMERE PANTS,
Of the finest quality, and beautifully made,
Worth $8,
Selling for $4.
At EVANS', and 66 68 Fulton-st.

900 SUPER BLACK FRENCH CLOTH FROCK-COATS,
From the stock of a broken house,
Lined throughout with silk and satin,
Well worth $25,
Selling for $13,
At EVANS' and 66 68 Fulton-st., between Gold and Cliff sts.

1,200 RICH SILK AND SATIN VESTS,
Worth $4 and $5,
Selling for $2 and $2 50
At EVANS', and 66 68 Fulton-st., between Gold and Cliff sts.

1,500 PAIR SUPER FRENCH DOESKIN PANTS,
From the stock of a broken house,
Worth $8,
Selling for $3 75,
At EVANS', and 66 68 FULTON-ST.

$130,000 WORTH OF GENTLEMEN'S WINTER CLOTHING,
Comprising Coats, Overcoats, Pants and Vests, of every description and size,
From the stock of a
Broken Wholesale House,
Is now being sold
At less than
HALF PRICE.
At EVANS', and 66 68 Fulton-st., between Gold and Cliff sts.

OVERCOATS	As low as $2 50
BUSINESS COATS	As low as 2 00
BLACK PANTS	As low as 1 50
SILK VESTS	As low as 1 00
CASSIMERE VESTS	As low as 75

&c., &c., &c., &c., &c.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CHARLES DICKENS. BOZ. BOZ.

TOM TEDDLER'S GROUND.

A CHRISTMAS BUDGET FOR 1861.

Y CHARLES DICKENS,

nd others.

EADY FOR DELIVERY THIS DAY.

he new pamphlet. Price 25 cen...

RUTLEDGE. RUTLEDGE. RUTLEDGE. RUTLEDGE.

THE SUTHERLANDS

THE NEW NOVEL

BY THE AUTHOR OF

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Price $1 25.

FRESH LOT IN THIS MORNING

HE DEMAND UNPRECEDENTED.

CHARLES READE. CHARLES READE.

THE CLOISTER AND THE HEARTH,
CHARLES READE'S MAGNIFICENT NOVEL.
Cloth covers, $1 25; paper covers, 75 cents.
PRAISED BY ENGLISH CRITICS
"THE GREATEST NOVEL OF THIS CENTURY."

These books are sold by all enterprising booksellers, and will be sent by mail *postage free*, on receipt of price, by
CARLETON, Publisher, (late Rudd & Carleton,)
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GET THE BEST!
WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY.
NEW PICTORIAL EDITION.
"THE BEST HOLIDAY GIFT."
ONE OF PERMANENT VALUE.
Sold by all Booksellers.

MESSRS. TICKNOR & FIELDS,
PUBLISH THIS DAY,
I.
MEMOIRS, LETTERS AND REMAINS
OF
ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE,
Author of
"Democracy in America,"
Translated from the French of GUSTAVE DE BEAUMONT.
Two volumes, 12mo. Price $2 50.
The memory of Alexis de Tocqueville belongs scarcely less to America than to France. The volumes of his inedited works and correspondence, with the Memoir by his friend Gustave de Beaumont, which have lately appeared in Paris, have a special claim to the attention of American readers. The intrinsic interest of these volumes is very great, as well for the soundness of the political opinions and reflections which they contain, as for the insight they afford into the character of one of the most remarkable men of the century.

II.
TRAGEDY OF ERRORS.
By the author of
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One volume, 16mo. Neatly bound, in uniform style with "Record of an Obscure Man." Price 75 cents.
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NOW READY,
The truly delightful book,
LILLIESLEAF;
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Concluding Passages in the Life of Mrs. MARGARET MAITLAND, of Sunnyside.
WRITTEN BY HERSELF.
One handsome volume. 12mo.....Price $1 00.
MARGARET MAITLAND! What delightful associations does the mention of this book recall! Few of its many thousand readers will ever forget the pleasurable emotions excited by its perusal; and here we have the concluding passages, full of the same touching grace which won the hearts of so many people, young and old.
It is a timely book for the season; for a better or more appropriate gift to a young lady could not be found. It may be read with equal pleasure by all, for though it introduces us to many of the characters of the former book, it is yet complete in itself.
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T. O. H. P. BURNHAM, Publisher,
Boston.

A PLEASANT COMPANION, ALWAYS AT HAND, FOR YOUR FAMILY OR YOUR FRIEND.
What can you get more
Acceptable and more
Valuable than
PURE AND ATTRACTIVE BOOKS?

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....Dec. 28, 1861.

$4,000 Ohio State 6s,'86.	87	300 Harlem R. Prefer'd	27¼
15,000 Ind. St. 6s, ex. int	75	50 do	28
2,000 N. Caro. St. 6s	89½	150 Erie R. Preferred	51½
25,000 Missouri St. 6s	39½	50 do s10	51¼
40,000 do	39¾	50 do b30	51½
1,000 California St. 7s	79¼	200 do	51
3,000 Brooklyn Im. Bs	85	50 do	51½
4,000 N. Y. Cen. 6s	91¼	250 Harlem Railroad	11¾
3,000 Erie R. 1st m. b	103	700 Chi. & R. I. R	48½
4,000 Erie R. 4th m. b	74	100 Mich. Cen. R	47
170 Pacific M. S. Co	88½	50 do b30	47¼
25 do b5	88¾	100 do s10	46
50 do	89	20 do	46¼
25 do s10	88¾	100 do	46
50 do s10	89	100 Mich.So.&N.I.R.s10	18¾
200 Clev. & Pitts. R	15	150 M.So.&N.I.G.S.s10	39½
300 Gal. & Chic. R	65	50 do b30	39¾
3750 N. Y. Cen. R	78¾	100 do	39½
100 do b10	78¾	150 do	39¾
250 do b30	78¾	50 do	39¼
100 do bnw	78¼	250 Pan. R. ex. div.b15	110
50 do b30	78¾	10 do	109¾
115 Erie Railway	29	50 do	109¾
650 do	29¼	100 Ill. Cen. R. scrip	60¾
250 do	29¾	100 do s10	60½
500 do b30	29¾	200 do s10	60¾
200 do	29½	160 Clev. & Tol. R	32½
100 do s10	29¾	1550 do	32¾
50 do b30	29¾	500 do	32¾
100 Reading R. b30	33¾	400 do b30	33

SECOND BOARD.

$5,000 U. S. 6s,'81	90	200 N. Y. Central R	78¾
5,000 do	90¼	175 do	78½
5,000 U. S. 5s,'74, Cou	81	50 do s60	78¾
1,000 Ten. State 6s,'90	41½	20 Erie Railway	30¾
5,000 do	41¾	50 do b10	30½
30,000 Missouri State 6s	41	450 do	30½
5,000 Mo. 6s, iss. to H. & St. Joseph R	45	200 Clev. & Tol. R	33¼
1,000 N. Carolina St. 6s	59¼	200 do	34
1,000 Georgia State 6s	66½	400 do b30	34½
5,000 Ill. Canal Reg. B.	78	200 Erie Railway Pref	52
5,000 Cal. State 7s	80	50 do	52½
5,000 N. Y. Cen. 6s s15	91	50 do b30	52¾
2,000 L. E. & W. 1st M. B.	73	12 do	52½
50 Chi. & R. I. R	49½	100 Hudson River R	37½
50 do	49¾	50 Mich. Central R s30	47¾
7 Bank of Commerce	78	50 do	47¼
50 Pac. Mail Stp. Co	90½	50 do	47¾
300 do s30	90¾	200 Mich. S. & N. Ia. R	19¾
75 do	90¾	25 do	19
50 do s30	90¾	150 M.S.&N.I.G.Stk	39½
50 do s60	90¾	100 Ill. Cen. R. scrip	60¾
50 do	91	7 do	60
100 do b30	91¼	50 do s30	60¾
100 do b30	91¾	100 do	60¾
150 Gal. & Chi. R	65	40 Mil.&Pra.DuCh2dP	55

SATURDAY, Dec. 28—P. M.

The Stock Market was under increased excitement to-day. The demand, on the political news from Washington, was considerably in advance of the offers to sell, except at a further rise in prices. Before the deliveries of New-York Central were through with, between the Boards, the price reached 78¾ ₩ cent., and again sold at that figure in the afternoon. A still stronger rise was had on both classes of Erie shares, and on Rock Island and Toledo. On Pacific Mail there was also quite an exciting time, the price running up to 91½ ₩ cent. Panama firm at 109½@109¾, ex-dividend. Late in the afternoon the buoyancy in the Share market at one moment partially subsided, but finally closed firm; New-York Central leaving off 78¾ ₩ cent. Other descriptions about as follows:

Central	78¾	Ill. Central	61
Erie	30½	Michigan Guaranteed	39½
Erie Preferred	52	Mich. Southern	18½
Toledo	25½	Galena	65
Rock Island	49¾	U. S. 6s, 1881	90½
Pacific	90½	Missouris	41
Panama	110¼		

The following were the bids to-day for the City Bank Shares:

Merchants'	80	Nassau	80
Commerce	75	Corn Exchange	85
American Exchange	75	Continental	70
Market	80		

And the following for the Railway Mortgages; the advance from yesterday being quite general at ¼@1¼ ₩ cent.:

N. Y. Cen. sixes	91	Mich. So.7 ₩c. firsts	81
N. Y. Cen. 7s, '64	98	Mich. So. 7 ₩c. sec'd bs	57
Erie firsts, '58	103	Northern Ia. firsts	83
Erie thirds, '83	88¾	N. Ia. Goshen Line, '68	81½
Erie fourths, '80	74	M. S. & N. Ins. f. 7 ₩c.	78
Hudson firsts, '59	105	Ill Cen. 7 ₩c., '75	85
Hudson seconds, s. f., '85	94	N. J. Cent. firsts	104
Hudson thirds, '75	75	N. J. Cent. seconds	98
Hudson convert. '67	98	Gal. & Chi. firsts	98
Harlem firsts, '69-'73	95	Chi. & Rock I. firsts	96
Harlem seconds, '64	90	L. E. & Wabash firsts	71
Mich. Cen. n. f. ₩c.	90½	Clev. & Tol. firsts, s. f.	77½
Chic. Bur. & Q. 8 ₩c.	94¾		

The Sub-Treasury receipts, to-day, were $531,464, including $291,419 on account of the Loan, and $70,000 for Customs; Payments, $1,076,150, including redeemed 6 ₩ cent. Notes. Balance, this afternoon, $4,016,255.

Philadelphia Stock Board.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 28.

Stocks firm. Pennsylvania State Fives, 77; Reading Railroad, 17; Morris Canal, 33; Long Island Railroad, 9¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 36¾. Sight Exchange on New-York at par.

GENERAL MARKETS.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Dec. 28, 1861—6 P. M.

The reported receipts of the principal kinds of produce, since our last, have been: 36 bbls. Ashes, 2,319 bbls. Flour, 490 bbls. and 186 sacks of Corn Meal, 1,015 bushels Wheat, 4,000 bushels Corn, 390 bushels Barley, 10,801 bushels Oats, 750 bushels Malt, 3,786 packages Provisions, 894 bbls. Whisky.

ASHES—Sales 34 bbls., at $6 for Pots and Pearls, ₩ 100 lbs. Stock in the Inspection Warehouse, this morning, 708 bbls. including 425 bbls. Pots, and 283 bbls. Pearls.

COTTON—Continues dull and heavy at 34c.@36c. for Middlings, ₩ lb. Sales, 500 bales.

COAL—Business has been less active in all kinds; 626 tons foreign changed hands, including, according to Mr. OLNEY, 60 tons Lanemark Gas, at $6 87½; 113 tons BRANKER'S House Cannel, $7 25; 213 tons Gas Cannel, at $6 25, to arrive; 140 tons New-Pelton, $5 25, all ex. ship, cash; and 100 tons Scotch Plinth, on private terms.

FLOUR AND MEAL—The demand for State and Western Flour has been moderate, to-day; prices have been quoted somewhat firmer. The reported sales, since our last, have been 13,800 bbls., including superfine State at $5 30@$5 45; inferior to choice extra State at $5 55@$5 80, mainly at $5 55@$5 65; rejected do., do., at $5 15@$5 35; Superfine Western, inferior to choice, at $5 30@$5 45; extra Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois, at $5 50@$6 20; extra Indiana and Michigan, at $5 60@$6 30; inferior extra Ohio, at $5 70@$5 75; round-hoop extra Ohio, shipping brands, at $5 80@$5 90 ₩ bbl.

Superfine State	$5 30	@	$5 45
Extra State	5 55	@	5 80
Superfine Western	5 30	@	5 45
Extra Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois	5 50	@	6 20
Extra Indiana and Michigan	5 60	@	6 30
Inferior extra Ohio	5 70	@	5 75
Extra Ohio, round hoop, shipping brands	5 80	@	5 90
Extra Ohio, trade brands	5 95	@	6 65
Fancy Genessee	5 80	@	5 90
Extra Genessee	5 95	@	6 90
Inferior to Choice Extra Missouri	5 85	@	6 90

Southern Flour is quiet at former rates; sales 900 bbls., at $5 55@$6 05 for poor to good superfine Baltimore, and $6 10@$8 25 for fancy to very choice extra brands, ₩ bbl. Canadian Flour is in limited demand, including superfine at $5 30@$5 40; extra at $5 60@$6 50 ₩ bbl.; sales 500 bbls. Rye Flour rules quiet at $3 @$4 30 for fine and superfine, ₩ bbl. Corn Meal is inactive at $2@$3 05 for Jersey; $3 25@$3 30 for Brandywine, ₩ bbl.

GRAIN—Desirable lots of Wheat have attracted more attention, but buyers have been reluctant to pay asking prices, and transactions have been restricted. The reported sales reach 41,500 bushels, including Canada White, on private terms; White Western, $1 40@$1 43; Amber do. at $1 40; Red Western, (Winter,) at $1 36@$1 38; Amber Wisconsin at $1 33; Milwaukee Club, $1 30@$1 32; Racine Spring, $1 28; Chicago Spring, $1 26@$1 27; Amber Long Island on private terms; Red State at $1 32; White Kentucky at $1 52, ₩ bushel. Corn is in moderate demand, at firmer rates; sales 114,450 bushels, at 63c.@64c. for Mixed Western; 64c.@64½c. for Western Yellow, ₩ bushel. Oats are depressed, including Canadian at 40c.@41c.; Western at 40½c. @41½c., State at 41½c.@42½c., and Jersey at 39½@ 41c. ₩ bushel. Rye is in moderate demand, at 79c.@ 83c. ₩ bushel; sales 8,200 bushels. Barley is unchanged. Sales of small lots were made, including Canada, at 76c., and State at 75c. ₩ bushel. We are indebted to Mr. WM. H. TRAFTON for the following comparative statement of the

Stock of Flour in New-York City, Jan. 1:

	1860.	1861.	1862.
Western Canal Flour, bbls	681,876	569,800	447,055
Canadian Flour, bbls	17,150	10,200	11,100
Southern Flour, bbls	228,503	91,998	36,956
Total	927,529	671,998	495,112

Comparative Statement of the Stock of Grain in New-York, Jan 1,

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.
Wheat, bush	1,211,312	1,915,388	3,535,741	2,046,052
Corn, bush	669,690	79,400	2,712,000	5,573,911
Rye, bush	42,500	30,500	26,400	58,500
Barley, bush	507,416	608,795	169,574	635,472
Oats, bush	660,200	1,576,100	494,790	704,575

HAY—North River bale is in moderate supply and fair demand at 70c.@87½c. ₩ 100 lbs.

HOPS—Continue in request at uniform quotations, including new, at 16c.@24c. ₩ lb.

HIDES—The movements in this line have been limited during the past week. Messrs. H. D. HULL & Co. notice the transactions in the principal kinds thus: "*Dry Hides*—The intervention of the Christmas holiday has taken one business day from the week, and during the balance the market has been quiet, buyers and sellers generally manifesting but little desire to operate. Some little inquiry is made from a few out-of-town buyers for prime descriptions, but their views are much below those of holders, and transactions thereby restricted. In prices we have no change to report, the principal part of the present stock being held with great firmness. *Wet Salted Hides*—For Domestic Slaughters the demand has materially fallen off, and prices, though not quotably lower, are less firm. California, of which the stock is large, and Foreign are held above the views of buyers. But little inquiry is made for Calcutta Buffalo, and holders exhibit no desire to force sales. Receipts for the week have been 4,848 Hides, as follows: 1,315 Tampico, ex *Concepcion*; 580 Aspinwall, ex *Xantho*; 616 London, ex *Plymouth Rock*; 60 Vera Cruz, ex *Acme*, and 2,277 from Baltimore and Philadelphia. Imports since 1st inst. have been 58,949 Hides from foreign and 18,617 from coastwise ports. Total, 77,556 Hides. Sales during the week have been 16,150 hides, including 2,900 dry Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, 21@23 lbs., 23c. less 4@5 ₩ cent. for Canada; 4,000 dry Montevideo, 20½@21 lbs., 22c. less 4@5 ₩ cent., usual selection; 3,000 dry Rio Grande, 20 lbs., 21½c. less 4@5 ₩ cent., usual selection; 2,500 dry Salted Chili, 24@28 lbs., part 18c., 6 months, usual selection; 300 dry Savanilla and Bogota, 25 lbs., private terms; 3,000 City Slaughter, 70 lbs., 6½c., cash; 250 Country Slaughter, 60 lbs., 6½c., cash; 200 Newfoundland Slaughter, 55 lbs., 6½c., cash; 50 bales Calcutta Slaughter, (cow,) 10 lbs., private terms.

The stock on hand of Ox and Cow Hides is 206,300, (same time last year 233,960—year before, 221,000,) and 1,023 bales Calcutta Cow and Buffalo, 1,500 Horse, 3,000 East India Cow and Buffalo.

LEATHER—The business of the week, in the principal descriptions, Messrs WEIZEL & WEIDEMEYER review thus: "*Hemlock Sole*—The regular business doing with manufacturers and Western dealers has been of limited extent, at rates little varied from the established figures. There is a continued speculative movement, which, however, has not grown to large dimensions. *Oak Sole*—Both sales and receipts during the week were of small extent, at unchanged prices. *Week's Receipts* of Sole Leather about 41,000 sides. *Boots and Shoes*—We can learn little of interest with regard to the market. The regular business is quiet, and Government contracts do not now flourish extensively among manufacturers."

NAVAL STORES—Resin has attracted more attention, including Common, at $5 62½@$5 75 ₩ 310 lbs. Tar has been in demand, and 100 barrels Washington have been sold on terms not ascertained. Turpentine inactive.

PROVISIONS—Pork is plenty and heavy. Sales of 500 bbls., at $12@$12 62½ for Mess; $13@ $14 for Prime Mess; and $8 25@$9 for Prime, ₩ bbl. Dressed Hogs, 4¾c.@5c. ₩ lb. Cut Meats are selling slowly, at 5¾c.@6c. for Hams, 4c.@4½c. for Shoulders, ₩ lb. Bacon is in demand at steady rates; sales 730 boxes, at 6½c.@7¾c. ₩ lb. Lard has not varied much; sales, 1,500 tcs. and bbls., very poor to prime at 7¾c.@8¾c. ₩ lb. Beef is unchanged; sales, since our last, 175 bbls., at $13 50@$14 for extra Mess, and $11 50@$12 for new repacked Mess ₩ bbl.; Prime Mess, $20@$20 50; India Mess, $23 ₩ tierce. Sales of these kinds, 1,400 tcs., chiefly for future delivery on private terms. Beef Hams, $14@$14 50 ₩ bbl. Butter continues plenty and heavy at 11c.@16c. for Western, and 16c. @21c. for State, ₩ lb. Cheese is inactive, at 5½c.@8c. ₩ lb.

SKINS—Heavy Goat are scarce, and wanted; 52 bales Cawnpore were sold on private terms. Deer have been freely purchased, on arrival, at rising prices. We now quote GOAT thus: Tampico, 37c.@38c.; Vera Cruz, 32c.@35c.; Buenos Ayres, 24c.@26c. ₩ lb; Curacoa No. 1, 40c.@45c.; Curacoa No. 2, 25c.@30c.; Madras, 24c.@27c.; Cawnpore, 27c.@30c.; Maracaibo, 30c. @35c. each, 6 months. Also DEER, thus: San Juan, 50c.@55c.; Bolivar, 40c.@42c.; Sisal, 45c.@48c.; Vera Cruz, 50c.@55c.; Chagres, 48c.@52c.; Porto C. and Barcelona, 40c.@42c. ₩ lb.

SUGARS—Sales to-day 270 hhds. Cuba and Porto Rico at 7¾c.@8¾c., and 150 hhds. Melado on private terms, ₩ lb.

TALLOW—Sales 55,000 lbs., at 9c.@9½c. ₩ lb.

WHISKY—Sales 900 bbls., at 18½c.@19c., chiefly at 18¾c.@19c. ₩ gallon.

FREIGHTS—A limited business was transacted, to-day, at somewhat irregular rates. We quote: For Liverpool—Flour, 2s. 6d.@3s. 3d. ₩ bbl.; Wheat, in bulk and bags, 9d.@9¾d.; Corn, 8¾d.@9¾d. ₩ bushel; Beef, 6s.@6s. 6d. ₩ tierce; Pork, 4s. 3d. ₩ bbl.; Bacon and Lard, 27s. 6d.@35s.; Butter and Cheese, 32s. 6d.@37s. 6d.; Tallow, 30s.@32s. 6d ₩ ton. For Glasgow—Flour, 3s.@3s. 3d. ₩ bbl.; Grain, 9¾d.@10¾d. ₩ bushel; Bacon and Lard, 32s. 6d.@35s.; Tallow, 27s. 6d.@30s. ₩ ton. For London—Flour, 3s.@3s. 3d. ₩ bbl.; Grain, 9d.@10d. ₩ bushel; Pork at 5s. ₩ bbl.; Beef, 7s. ₩ tc.; Hops, ¾d. ₩ lb.; Cheese, 35s.@40s.; Bacon and Lard, 30s.@ 35s.; Tallow, 30s. ₩ ton. For Dublin—Wheat, 10d., in bags, ₩ bushel. For Havre—Flour, 65c.@70c. ₩ bbl.; and Wheat, 18c. ₩ bushel. The latest charters, according to the *Shipping List*, have been: A British schooner, 1,700 bbls., to Curaçoa and back, $1,600; a brig, 246 tons, to Malaga, Light Pipe Staves $36, Heavy do. $41, and back, $1,550; a British schooner, 103 tons, to Kingston, Jam., and back, $1,050; a brig, 2,500 bbls., to south side Cuba and back, sugar, 40c.; a ship, 1,032 tons, to Cadiz, Staves, and a schooner, 426 tons, to Havana, on private terms.

Feeling in Pennsylvania About War with England.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

LOCK HAVEN, Penn., Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1861.

In these days of trouble, it may not be uninteresting to you to hear from the interior of Pennsylvania. You gave our brave Pennsylvania soldiers credit for their gallant action the other day, and we do not fail to appreciate it, in view of the fact that the usual practice of the metropolitan journals has ever been slow to recognize merit in anything pertaining to the Keystone State.

The wild wave of defiance which swept over our people on the receipt of the threatening news from England has rolled away, and the "sober second thought" is succeeding. We are not yet informed of the exact nature of the demand England has made upon us; but our people are fast coming to the conclusion that under the present circumstances we cannot, for a doubtful point of honor, afford a war with England. No doubt the act of Capt. WILKES is perfectly justifiable in the light of British international law, but we have a more serious business in hand than to fight a war for the establishment of a belligerent right already conceded. Our first duty to ourselves and to our posterity is to crush out this hideous rebellion. To that end all our efforts should tend. The admonitions of our patriot fathers; the respect and reciprocal duty we owe them; the amazing greatness and prosperity we have attained; the sublime duty we owe to our posterity and oppressed humanity throughout the world, of perpetuating to them the matchless and priceless boon of free government; yea, every incentive which can influence the action of patriots, call to us with an irresistible voice to put the heel of armed power on the neck of this gigantic and immeasurably wicked rebellion, and grind it out utterly and forever. That is our present business, and let us see to it that no obstacle whatever shall interfere between ourselves and the consummation of our holy mission. If hypocritical and mercenary Britain thinks she has now found the occasion for the consummation of a long-cherished purpose, let her be foiled. Much as it may wound our pride to yield those arrant traitors SLIDELL and MASON, if that be the ultimatum of England, we must yield. It must be evident to every thoughtful person, that with our Northern frontier and North Atlantic seaboard and cities in such a defenceless condition, we could not cope successfully with the combined armies of England and the rebellion, and the magnificent naval power which England would bring to bear against us. The justice of our cause is a great assistance; but contests in modern times have oftener been decided by the length of the purse, and weight and range of artillery, than by the simple fact of fighting in a just cause. It therefore behoves us to consider whether we can best yield the Union or MASON and SLIDELL, if that be the demand of England. We may rest assured that if the honesty or arts of diplomacy can hold the men and preserve peace, it will be done, for we have masters at the helm. I remember right well when our COXE, and Anconas, and Woods, and Vallandighams, flung the cry of "Fifty-four, forty, or fight" into the teeth of the British Lion, but they subsided to a lower parallel without an exhibition of their prowess. Their great regard now for the act of Capt. WILKES is only a feint for rebel advantages. We are in no condition to fight foreign wars until our internecine strife is ended, and then we may be able to square accounts with our imperious neighbor, who has stricken us in our hour of weakness. The sword of Nemesis will not always slumber. P.

Arrival and Departure of the First Battalion of the First Regiment Massachusetts Cavalry.

The First Battalion of the First Regiment Massachusetts Cavalry, which has been encamped at Readville for some time past, arrived in this City, on Thursday, en route for Annapolis, where, it is expected, it will be attached to Gen. BURNSIDE'S Division. It came from Boston by way of Providence, and landed at the New-Haven Railroad depôt on Fourth-avenue. On landing, the men with their horses proceeded at once to the foot of Cortlandt-street and crossed over to Jersey City, where a special train of cars was in waiting to convey them to Philadelphia, from which place they will be transported to their destination. The battalion numbers 450 men, all of whom are thoroughly armed and equipped. Both men and officers are excellently well mounted, the horses having the appearance of being strong and healthy. It is expected that the second battalion will arrive here to-day, and the third in a day or two afterward. The following is a list of the officers of the regiment as far as chosen:

Field and Staff—Colonel, ROBERT WILLIAMS, of Virginia; Lieutenant-Colonel, Horace Binney, of West Roxbury; Major, Greely S. Curtis, of Boston; Quartermaster, Lucius W. Knight, of Boston; Surgeon, James Holland, of Westfield; Assistant Surgeon, Oscar C. De Wolfe, of Chester; Battalion Quartermasters, Edward A. Brackett, of Winchester, and Milton H. Bowen, of Dorchester.

Line.—Company A—Capt. Marcus A. Moore, of Waltham. Company B—Capt. Henry L. Higginson, of Boston. Company C—Capt. Atherton H. Stephens, of Cambridge. Company D—Capt. William Gibbs, of Waltham. Company E—Capt. Lucius Redmond. Company F—Capt. Oren R. Shaw, of Boston. Company G—Capt. Samuel E. Chamberlain, of Cambridge. Company H—Capt. David B. Keith, of Boston. Company I—Capt. Caspar Crownenshields of Boston.

Arrival and Departure of the Sixth New-Hampshire Regiment.

This regiment, Col. NELSON CONVERSE, arrived in this City Thursday, from Keene, Cheshire County, N. H., where it has been encamped since the 15th of last November. The steamer *Connecticut* was chartered to convey them here. Previous to leaving the encampment a handsome stand of colors was presented to the regiment by Gov. BERRY. Col. CONVERSE received the gift, on behalf of his men, in a neat and appropriate speech. The regiment has its maximum number, and such was the desire to join that upwards of two hundred men who presented themselves for enlistment had to be refused. Lieut.-Col. GRIFFIN was formerly a Captain in the Second New-Hampshire Regiment. Many of the other officers have also seen active service. All of the men are fully uniformed and equipped, but are not armed. Weapons—Sharpe's rifles—will be provided them in Washington. The men were landed at Pier No. 1, North River. During the afternoon they again embarked and proceeded to Amboy, by which route they will be conveyed to the capital. Subjoined is a list of the officers:

Field and Staff.—Colonel, NELSON CONVERSE; Lieutenant-Colonel, Simon G. Griffin; Major, Charles Scott; Adjutant, Plim P. Bixby; Quartermaster, Alonzo Nute; Commissary, Eli Wentworth; Surgeon, William A. Tracy; Assistant Surgeon, Sherman Cooper; Chaplain, Robert Stinson; Sergeant-Major, Timothy K. Ames; Quartermaster's Sergeant, Albert Kimball; Commissary Sergeant, John H. Varnly; Hospital-Steward, James H. Noyes.

Line—Company A—Capt. Joseph Clark. Company B—Capt. Samuel P. Adams. Company C—Capt. H. H. Bierson. Company D—Capt. Samuel B. Quarles. Company E—Capt. O. G. Dort. Company F—Capt. Geo. C. Starkwell. Company G—Capt. John W. Putnam. Company H—Capt. John B. Sanders. Company I—Capt. Robert L. Ela. Company K—Capt. E. H. Converse.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

WARREN-STREET M. E. CHURCH, Between Court and Smith sts., South Brooklyn.—Service in this Church on SUNDAY, Dec. 29, by the Pastor, Rev. J. H. MITCHELL, D. D., at 10½ o'clock, A. M. Subject—*Angelic Prophecy*. At 3 P. M. a general Love Feast, and at 7 o'clock, by the same, *Angelic Confession of Faith and Doxology*. The friends of the cause, and the public generally, are cordially invited. Seats Free.

FREE CHURCH OF THE REDEMPTION (Protestant Episcopal) in East 14th-st., between 3d-av. and Irving-place. Rev. ROBERT G. DICKSON, Pastor. Divine service at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Fourteen hundred seats in this comfortable, well-arranged and easily accessible Church. A cordial welcome for all—"Rich and poor meet together—the Lord is the maker of them all."

GREENE-STREET M. E. CHURCH, Between Broome and Spring sts. Rev. CHAS. F. HARRIS, Pastor, will preach on SUNDAY at 10½ o'clock A. M. and 7½ o'clock P. M. The morning's discourse will be *A Plea for the Bible Among our Volunteers*, and the evenings, *The Valedictory of* 1861. A Watch-Night service on TUESDAY EVENING, commencing at 9 o'clock. Seats free.

HEDDING M. E. CHURCH—EAST 17TH-ST., north side, between 1st and 2d avs., near Stuyvesant Park. Rev. ABEL STEVENS, Pastor, will preach SABBATH MORNING, at 10½ o'clock, the third of his course of sermons on the *Advent*, and in the EVENING, at 7 o'clock, the fourth of his course of sermons on *The Immortality of the Soul*. Seats free. Strangers are cordially invited.

ARMY AND NAVY.—GEN. ARTHUR, ADGT. POSTLEY, Rev. PREST. RAYMOND, Rev. Dr. GILLETTE and Rev. D. C. HAYNES will speak in the Calvary Baptist Church, 23d-st., between 5th and 6th avs., on SABBATH EVENING, commencing at 7½ o'clock, on supplying the army and navy with Scriptures. All are invited, and a collection will be taken.

THE CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE WILL hold a midnight Union prayer-meeting in the lecture-room of Barnum's Museum, NEW-YEAR'S EVE, at 10½ o'clock, to pray that the peaceful relations between England and this country may not be disturbed. Rev. CHAS. G. GOSS will commence preaching at the same place on the first SABBATH of the New Year, at 3 o'clock.

FREE MISSION CHURCH, CORNER OF Madison and Gouverneur sts., under care of Rev. Dr. HARDENBERGH. MORNING Service at 10½ o'clock. Rev. Dr. MANN may be expected to preach in the EVENING, service at 7½ o'clock. The usual Monthly Meeting of the Children in the Church, at 3 o'clock. All are cordially invited.

PREACHING IN FRENCH, UP TOWN.—Rev. M. FIVAZ, pastor of the French Evangelical Church, will preach on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, in Dr. PARKER'S Church, 4th-av., corner of 22d-st. The SUNDAY MORNING service, in Crosby-st., corner of Grand-st., is continued as usual at 10½ o'clock. Seats free at both places.

REV. JARED W. SCUDDER IS EXPECTED to preach on SABBATH MORNING, at 10½ o'clock, in the Reformed Dutch Church, 21st-st., between 5th and 6th avs., on the subject of *Missions*, and in the AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock, will give information regarding the Manners, Customs, and Moral Condition of the People of India.

"THE PRESENT MOVEMENT OF RELIGIOUS Ideas in France, among Catholics, Protestants and Philosophers." M. MIEL will continue to speak on this important subject TO-MORROW EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, in Ebbitt Hall, No. 55 West 33d-st., near Broadway. Seats free.

GEORGE STORRS, EDITOR OF THE *Bible Examiner*, will preach at the Botanic Hall, No. 68 East Broadway, to the Second Advent Church, who are looking for the immediate coming of Christ, TO-MORROW, at 10½ A. M. and 3 P. M. All lovers of Bible truth are cordially invited to attend. Seats free.

APPEALS TO THE YOUNG.—THE SECOND of the series of discourses will be given at the 20th-st. Universalist Church, between 6th and 7th avs., on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, by Rev. E. G. BROOKS. Subject: *Opinions*. Services at 3 o'clock. Sermon in the morning at 10½.

SECOND UNIVERSALIST CHURCH—15th-st. and 2d-av.—Rev. G. T. FLANDERS will deliver the last discourse on the *Problem of Evil*, SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock; answering the question, "What do Universalists believe of the moral effect of evil on the Soul?" Public freely invited.

THIRTY-SEVENTH-STREET M. E. CHURCH, NEAR THIRD-AV.—Preaching on SUNDAY, at 10½ o'clock A. M., by Rev. F. S. DE HASS; at 3 P. M. by Rev. J. ARRELL; at 7 P. M. by the Pastor, Rev. W. MCALLISTER.

O. B. FROTHINGHAM PREACHES EVERY SUNDAY MORNING, at Ebbitt Hall, No. 55 West 33d-st., near Broadway, at 10½ o'clock. Subject of discourse next Sunday morning: *The Year's Record of Sadness and Gladness*.

SPIRITUAL MEETINGS—LAMARTINE Hall, corner of 29th-st. and 8th-av., EVERY SUNDAY at 10½ A. M. and 3 and 7½ P. M. Miss SARAH M. JOHNSON, a celebrated trance medium, will speak NEXT SUNDAY EVENING.

AND THERE SHALL BE A TIME OF trouble such as never was since there was a nation.—Dan. 12: 1. That time is rapidly approaching. The Special Messenger of the coming King of Glory will preach on SUNDAY, at 3 P. M., at the hall No. 163 Bowery.

REV. R. C. SHIMEALL WILL PREACH A discourse on SUNDAY, Eon *The Nativity of Christ, and the closing of the Year*, at the Bleecker-street Presbyterian Church, corner Morton-street. Services at 10½ A. M. and 7½ o'clock P. M. The public are invited.

O, THOU MAN OF GOD, THERE IS DEATH in the pot—2 Kings, 4:40. Rev. WILLIAM ALVIN BARTLETT will deliver "A sermon for the Old Year," on SUNDAY EVENING, at the Brooklyn Tabernacle. Services at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M.

REV. HENRY BLANCHARD WILL LECture on *Calvin and Calvinism*, in the Church of the Restoration, (First Universalist,) corner of Monroe-place and Clark-st., Brooklyn, SUNDAY EVENING. The public are cordially invited to attend.

MEMORIAL CHURCH—HAMMOND-ST., CORner Waverley-place. Rev. C. B. SMITH, Assistant Minister of the Church of the Ascension, will preach on SUNDAY EVENING. Services at 10½ A. M., 3½ and 7½ o'clock P. M. Seats free.

THE ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES OF the Missionary Societies connected with the Seventh Presbyterian Church, corner of Broome and Ridge sts., will be held SABBATH EVENING, 29th inst., at 7 o'clock. Interesting reports and addresses may be expected.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH, REV. THOS. GALLAUDET, Rector.—Services on SUNDAY, as usual, with the voice, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M., and in the sign language, at 3 P. M. The Rector will preach in the morning, and the Rev. F. C. EWER in the evening. Seats free.

PARK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BROOKLYN.—Rev. HENRY D. NORTHROP will preach in the Park Tabernacle, Cumberland-st., between Myrtle and Park avs., SUNDAY, Dec. 29, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Sunday-School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL—17TH-ST., NEAR 6TH-av.—Services on LORD'S DAY, Dec. 29, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Preaching by the Pastor, URBAN C. BREWER. Subject—Morning, *The Church in Pergamos*; evening. *Relation between the Church and the State*.

MRS. CORA L. V. HATCH WILL SPEAK at Dodworth's Hall, No. 806 Broadway, on SUNDAY, Dec. 29, at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M. In consequence of the previous indisposition of the speaker, the subject—*Great Britain, her Policy Past and Present*—will be repeated.

MRS. E. J. FRENCH WILL LECTURE in Cooper Union, Room No. 29, at 3 P. M. and 7½ P. M., SUNDAY, Dec. 29. Admittance free.

LOST AND FOUND.

EXCHANGED BY MISTAKE, ON THE 18th inst., a Hudson Bay sable muff, for a mink one, either at Lord & Taylor's, Tiffany's, Sloane's, or Crowen's Bookstore. Whoever has it will please send their address to No. 299 6th-av.

LOST.—A SMALL, LIGHT, TAN-COLORED HOUND DOG. Five dollars reward will be paid on returning him to the Pierrepont House, Brooklyn.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

THE EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY TO BUY

ELEGANT FANCY ARTICLES,

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Prices from 75 cents to $25.

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A. COX'S SON'S,

No. 25 Maiden-lane.

1862.—PRESENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS—At HOWE & FERRY'S, consisting of FINE GIFT BOOKS, and numerous other articles suitable for presents. HOWE & FERRY, No. 76 Bowery.

ELEGANT HOLIDAY PRESENT.—"LE Bouquet Imperial," the perfume Princess Clotilde called "delightful," and of which Prince Napoleon ordered $50 worth to be sent to the Palais Royal, Paris, sold by the manufacturer, GEO. REYNOLDS, No. 260 Court-st., Brooklyn, and by druggists and perfumers generally, at 50 cents per bottle.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—LADIES' TRAVELling and shopping bags, jewel cases, &c., &c., a beautiful and useful article for presents. JOHN CATTNACH, trunk manufacturer and importer, No. 86 Broadway,

FINANCIAL.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

OFFICE

GREAT WESTERN

MARINE

INSURANCE COMPANY,

Great Western Buildings, Nos. 31 and 33 Pine-st.,

NEW-YORK.

THE USUAL SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST DIVIDEND of 3½ per cent. on the $1,000, 000 Cash Capital Stock of this Company, will be paid at this office, on and after Jan. 2, 1862. Transfer books will be closed from on and after the 20th inst.

DOUGLAS ROBINSON, Secretary.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK, No. 4200 CANAL, CORNER OF VARICK-ST. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 2, and from 6 to 7 P. M. Deposits received on or before Jan. 20 will draw interest from the 1st inst. 4 per cent. interest allowed on all sums of $300 and under, and 5 per cent. on larger amounts. THIS BANK HAS OPENED 1,142 ACCOUNTS, AND RECEIVED ON DEPOSIT $237,372 46 IN THE PAST 30 MONTHS. E. V. HAUGHWOUT, President. GARDNER S. CHAPIN, Secretary.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK, Corner 3d-av. and 25th-st. CHARTERED 1854. Six per Cent. interest allowed on all sums from $1 to $1,000. DEPOSITS WILL DRAW INTEREST FROM JAN. 1. Bank open daily from 10 to 3, also on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 6 to 8 o'clock. SPENCER K. GREEN, President. STEPHEN S. CHILDS, Secretary.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO., No. 59 WALL-ST., ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

CONTRACTORS' BILLS. For Army and Navy supplies collected cheaply and expeditiously, or purchased on favorable terms, by LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON, Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st., New-York

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY—NEW-YORK, Dec. 5, 1861.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, held at their Office in New-York this day, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of FIVE DOLLARS per share upon the Scrip Shares of the Capital Stock of the Company, be and the same is hereby called payable on the twentieth day of January, 1862; and that the same be payable on the Stock registered in the City of New-York at the Office of the Company in that City; and on the Stock registered in London, at the Office of Messrs. ROBERT BENSON & Co., London; and that parties desiring to pay their assessment in London, may pay the same at a rate of exchange sufficient to produce five dollars per share to the Company in the City of New-York.

Resolved, That the transfer books be closed on the afternoon of the 15th January next, and reopened on the 20th day of the same month; and that no transfer be permitted on or after that day of shares upon which the foregoing assessment shall not have been paid.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

The eighty-dollar certificates to be returned on payment of the above.

NOTICE.—THE BANK OF MONTREAL HAVING established an agency at Chicago, is prepared to do a general Banking business, and, in connection therewith will attend to the collection of commercial paper in all accessible points throughout the West. Collections in interior points will be at the risk of owners, care being used in selecting the most reliable medium.

CHICAGO, Oct. 10, 1861. E. W. WILLARD, Agent.

Referring to the above, we are prepared to draw, purchase and collect upon Chicago on favorable terms.

We also purchase and collect upon the Canadas, and issue drafts and credits upon the various branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Union Bank of London.

RICHARD BELL and A. OGILVIE, No. 22 Pine-st., Agents for the Bank of Montreal, New-York.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Dec. 16, 1861.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the Office of the Company, Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, January 8, 1862, for the election of eleven Directors, and for the transaction of important business relating to the purchase of that part of the Springfield, Mount Vernon and Pittsburgh Railroad lying between Delaware, Ohio, and Springfield, Ohio, and other business. The transfer books will be closed on the 27th inst., and remain closed until the 6th January next. By order of the Board of Directors. GEORGE H. RUSSELL, Secretary.

FIFTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND—BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held at their office, No. 16 Merchants' Exchange, New-York, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861, it was—

Resolved, That the usual Dividend of Ten (10) per cent. be paid upon the capital stock of the Company, on and after the 2d day of January next, out of the profits for the last six months, leaving a balance of said earnings of 3½ per cent., which is added to the surplus fund.

By order, WM. F. LEGGETT, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE CO., No. 11 Wall-st., New-York, Dec. 18, 1861.

THE STOCKHOLDERS ARE HEREBY notified that a Semi-Annual Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent. has been declared, and will be payable on and after the first Monday in January next.

An election of Directors for the ensuing year will also be held on the same day. Polls open from 12 M. to 2 P. M.

This Company continues to insure, as usual, on the most reasonable terms.

J. C. WINANS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO., NEW-YORK, Oct. 29, 1861.

HOLDERS OF THE STOCK OF THIS Company, as registered upon the books of the company at the close of business on the 15th day of January, 1862, will be entitled to Canceled Bonds Scrip for five dollars upon each share of stock held by them deliverable on or after the 1st day of February next; and parties holding certificates are hereby notified to have the same registered in their own names on or before the said 15th day of January.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

WESTERN VERMONT RAILROAD.—PURsuant to the order of the Court of Chancery of the State of Vermont, a Dividend of Three and One-Half (3½) per cent. on the principal of the First Mortgage Bonds upon said Railroad, will be said at the Mechanics' Bank, in the City of New-York, on and after the 1st day of January, 1862, to the order of such persons as shall have proved their bonds.

SHEPERD KNAPP, GEORGE BRIGGS, } Trustees.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION—NO. 96 WARREN-ST.—Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on sums from $1 to $500, and 5 per cent. on sums over that amount. Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. Also on Monday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, from 4 to 7 P. M. JOHN HASTREE, President.

WILLIAM M. PULLIS, SYLVANUS S. WARD, } Vice-Presidents.

VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

MARINERS' SAVINGS BANK, NO. 1 34-av., opposite the Cooper Institute. Deposits made on or before the 1st of January will bear interest from that date.

BANK OPEN DAILY from 9 to 2 P. M. and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS from 5 to 8 o'clock. THOS. B. STILLMAN, President. ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

BANK OF NEW-YORK.—THE BOARD OF Directors of the Bank of New-York have this day declared a Dividend of Three per Cent. on the capital stock of the Bank, for the current six months, payable to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January next. The books of transfer will be closed from this date to the 6th day of January. W. B. MEEKER, Cashier. Dec. 17, 1861.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BANK, No 163 BOWERY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 25, 1861.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this institution, for the ensuing year, and for three Inspectors for the next ensuing election, will be held at the Banking house, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1862. Polls will be open from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M.

GEO. W. YOUK, Cashier.

BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1861.

TWENTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMIannual dividend of (5) Five per Cent., on the Capital Stock of this Bank, from the earnings of the current six months, will be paid on and after the 2d day of January, 1862. The transfer books will remain closed until that date. By order. J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK, CHATHAM-SQUARE.—Receives deposits from 25 cents to $5,000. Six per cent. interest allowed on sums of $500 and under. This Bank has received during the past year $46,570 67 more than it has paid out.

M. D. VAN PELT, President. JOSEPH P. COOPER, Secretary.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, No. 561 and 563 Broadway, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS Bank have declared a dividend of three (3) per cent., payable on and after the 2d day of January next, until which date the transfer books will be closed.

A. MASTERTON, Cashier.

CONTINENTAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CONTINENTAL BANK have this day declared a dividend of Three Per Cent., payable on and after MONDAY, Jan. 6, 1862. The transfer books will be closed from Dec. 26 to Jan. 6, inclusive. E. W. TALMAN, Assistant Cashier.

NOTICE.—HOLDERS OF MILWAUKEE CITY Bonds, issued to the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad Company, may exchange the same for Second Preferred Stock of the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railway Company, by applying to W. SCHALL & CO., Nos. 56 and 60 Exchange-place.

COLLECTIONS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.—Claims on any of the Departments, Quartermasters' accounts, and Notes payable in Washington, D. C., collected with promptness and on reasonable terms by RIGGS & CO., No. 56 Wall-st.

APPROVED BILLS FOR SUPPLIES FURNished the War and Navy Departments cashed by JOHN B. MURRAY, No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

THE COUPONS OF THE JACKSON County (Ohio) Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid at the Ocean Bank after that date. CHAS. PALMER, Assistant Cashier.

FINANCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE HARMONY FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 50 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, 26th Dec., 1861.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a Semi-annual Dividend of FIVE Per Cent., payable after the FIRST OF JANUARY next. The transfer books will be closed until the 2d proximo.

R. O. GLOVER, Secretary.

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS ADJUSTED. Claims upon the War and Navy Departments; the Treasury; Pension, Land and Census Bureaux; and the accounts of Army, Navy and Mail Contractors adjusted in person by our resident agent in Washington, Hon. HORATIO KING, late Postmaster-General of the United States. JOHN B. MURRAY, Army and Navy Banker, No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office. Claims are made up and forwarded to Washington daily.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY, TONTINE BUILDINGS, No. 88 WALL-ST. NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1861.

NINETEENTH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF Directors of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Six per Cent. out of the earnings of the Road, for the six months ending 31st inst., payable to stockholders or their legal representatives on and after the 2d of January next. The transfer books will be closed from this day until the morning of Monday, the 6th of January.

HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—MANHATTAN SAVINGS INSTITUTION—DEC. 26, 1861.—Interest will be paid on all deposits in this Institution (by the rules entitled thereto) at the rate of Six Per Cent. per annum, on all sums of $500 and under, and at the rate of Five Per Cent. per annum on all sums over that amount, payable on and after Jan. 20, 1862. Interest will be credited under date of Jan. 1st, and if not withdrawn will receive interest the same as a deposit. By order

E. J. BROWN, President. A. L. ALVORD, Secretary.

NOTICE.—THE FOLLOWING NOTES HAVE been obtained from us by fraud, and are without value received:

Note dated New-York, Sept. 20—3 months—$322 50.
Note dated New-York, Sept. 20—4 months—$206 37.
Note dated New-York, Sept. 14—4 months—$206 00.
Note dated New-York, Sept. 12—5 months—$246 26.
Note dated New-York, Oct. 18—60 days—$247 60.
Draft dated New-York, Sept. 10—90 days—$255 60.

FOWLE, HEWITT & CO. NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.

BANK OF AMERICA—DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of (3½) Three and One-half per Cent. for the current six months, ending Dec. 31, which will be paid to the stockholders on and after THURSDAY, the 2d day of January next. The transfer books will remain closed until the 6th day of January. By order of the Board. WM. L. JENKINS, Cashier.

THE PUBLIC WILL PLEASE TAKE notice, there will probably be $440,000 in bonds of the City of New-York, issued for the purchase of the Fort Gansevoort property, which bonds will be void for want of consideration, and for want of authority of law, the Court of last resort in the State having decided that the property now belongs to the City as much so as the City Hall itself. C. V. S. ROOSEVELT.

NEW-YORK & HARLEM RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER 4TH-AV. AND 26TH-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.

INTEREST COUPONS OF THE THIRD Mortgage Bonds, Bonds of 1872, and Sinking Fund Bonds, will be paid on and after Jan. 1 at the Treasurer's Office. W. H. EMERSON, Treasurer.

METROPOLITAN BANK, NO. 108 BROADWAY.—NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1861.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of the Metropolitan Bank have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of 3 (three) Per Cent., payable on the first Monday of January next (6th proximo.) The Transfer Books will remain closed until the 9th January prox. GEO. I SENEY, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK.—THE Stockholders of this institution are hereby notified that an election for directors for the ensuing year and for inspectors of the then next election will be held in the Banking-house on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next, between 12 and 1 o'clock.

J. D. VERMILYE, Cashier.

BANK OF THE COMMONWEALTH—New-York, Dec. 27, 1861.—The Board of Directors of the Bank of the Commonwealth have this day declared a dividend of three per cent., payable on and after Monday, Jan. 6, 1862. The transfer books will be closed from this date to Jan. 6 inclusive. GEORGE ELLIS, Cashier.

AN ELECTION OF FIVE TRUSTEES OF the NEW-YORK BALANCE DOCK COMPANY will be held at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M., on the second WEDNESDAY of January next.—Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.

JAS. B. NICHOLSON, Secretary.

ROSEHILL SAVINGS BANK, CORNER of 14th-st. and 8th-av., open daily from 1 to 5 P. M. Wednesdays and Saturdays ur til 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest on all sums of $500 and under. Interest allowed from the 1st of January. THOS. CHRISTY, President. RICH. H. BULL, Secretary.

DIVIDEND.—OFFICE OF THE MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 65 Wall-st., New-York, Dec. 26, 1861. The Board of Directors of this Company have, to-day, declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. (5) for six months, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1862. JOHN BAKER, Secretary.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE New-York, Providence and Boston Railroad Company have this day declared a Dividend of (2½) Two and Half Per Cent. payable on and after the 2d of January next, at the office of M. MORGAN & SON, No. 37 William-st. NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1861.

IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., OFFICE No. 2½ WALL-ST.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have declared a dividend of Four Per Cent. on the capital stock, payable on and after Jan. 2. FRANK W. BALLARD, Secretary.

SEVENTH WARD BANK.—NEW-YORK, DEC. 24, 1861.—FIFTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—The President and Directors have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) Per Cent., payable to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January, 1862. By order of the Board, A. S. FRASER, Cashier.

INTEREST NOTICE.—THE COUPONS ON THE first mortgage bonds of the Joliet and Chicago Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid on presentation at the office of Messrs. M. K. Jesup & Co., No. 44 Exchange-place, on and after Jan. 2. T. B. BLACKSTONE, President.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Coupons due 1st of January, 1862, on $400,000 first mortgage bonds of that Company will be paid after that day at the office of SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

STATE OF MICHIGAN INTEREST.—THE interest due on Michigan State Bonds, 1st January, 1862, will be paid after that date at the Metropolitan Bank, by JOHN OWEN, Treasurer.

INCOME BONDS BUFFALO STATE LINE RAILROAD COMPANY cashed by H. T. MORGAN & CO., William-st., at 98 cents.

FARMS.

FARMS FOR SALE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY.—A farm of 20½ acres, situated about half a mile east of Hart's Village, and 16 miles from Poughkeepsie, and 8 miles from the Harlem Railroad Depot, at Dover Plains. The mail stage passes to and from Poughkeepsie daily. A good boarding and day school within about 1½ miles; and meetings of different persuasions within a short distance. The dwelling-house is nearly new and modern built, 26 feet front by 36 feet deep on the ground. The first floor consists of a hall, two good-sized parlors, with an extension room connected by sliding doors; a lodging-room, bath-room, and water closet. Second floor, four good-sized lodging rooms, with large garret above. Also attached to the main building for dining-room and library, with two good lodging rooms, and store room above, with a private stairway. A large cellar under the whole. A kitchen, wash-room and milk-room, with water constantly running into the wash-room, and to the barn-yard. A large barn, 36 by 54 feet; a young orchard just coming into bearing, of apples, pears, plums, and cherries. Also, grapes, currants, strawberries, Antwerp raspberries, Lawton blackberries, &c., with a great deal of shrubbery about the place.

Also, a farm of 20½ acres on the opposite side of the Turnpike. On the premises is a cottage and a tenant house, with a stable for two horses, and a large barn 30 by 60 feet. Will be sold separate or together. For terms, &c., apply to L. BARROW, on the premises.

FOR SALE, A NORTH RIVER FARM OF 30 ACRES—With fine views, abundance of choice fruit, good plain buildings; ½ mile from landing, and 30 miles from New-York. PRICE TO SUIT THE TIMES. C. H. OLIVER, NO. 51 LIBERTY ST.

TO LET.

TO LET—THE UPPER PART OF A TWO-STORY house, in Franklin-av., near Myrtle-av., Brooklyn; rent very low. Inquire of PETER A. BERT, Real Estate House Agent and Auctioneer, No. 359 Grand-st., Williamsburgh.

TO LET—A STABLE, FIRST-CLASS, IN THE alley rear of No. 11 Washington-square. Apply at No. 27 Waverley-place, before 12 M.

TO LET—THE OLD ESTABLISHED CABINET warehouse of the late William Palmer, No. 70 East Broadway. Inquire on the premises.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

WANTED—THE LOWER PART OF A HOUSE, or the whole of a small one, with all the modern improvements, to consist of five or six rooms, in a respectable neighborhood, by a family of adults, between 1st and 7th avs., not below 6th-st., or above 30th-st. Rent not to exceed $400, in advance. References exchanged. Address W. K., Box No. 1,475 Post-office.

WANTED TO RENT—A HANDSOMELY-FURnished house, in the neighborhood of Union-square, by a gentleman's family, with but one child. Apply by letter, addressed Box No. 1,182 Post-office.

COUNTRY RESIDENCES.

ORANGE, N. J.—FURNISHED AND UNFURnished houses, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, to let for the season or year; also, country seats, farms and villa sites to rent and for sale low, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 59 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.: No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 1 to 5 P. M.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

OFFICE OF RECEIVER OF TAXES, Dec. 19, 1861.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL parties in arrears for taxes of the current year, that the same must be paid before the 1st day of January next. All taxes remaining unpaid on that day will be subject to a penalty at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum from the 30th of September last. JAMES KELLY, Receiver.

MEDICAL.

AFFLICTED RESTORED! IGNORANCE EXPOSED! FALLACIES UNMASKED! HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH SEXES, married or single, in health or disease. DR. LARMONT'S Paris, London and New-York Medical Adviser and Marriage Guide, (50th edition, 200 pages, 100 Anatomical Illustrations,) upon Mental and Nervous Debility, Loss of Memory, Incapacity, Urinary Deposits, Involuntary Loss of Semen, nights, with the urine, or at stool; Impotency, Affections of the Bladder and Kidneys, Strictures, Gleet, Gonorrhœa, Syphilis, primary and constitutional, &c.

Among its contents is the anatomy of the sexual organs of the male and female—all their diseases and weaknesses; latest discoveries in reproduction; European hospital practice; quacks, advertisers, their recipes and specifics; the author's unequaled Paris and London treatment, &c.

All who would avoid unsuccessful and barbarous treatment with Mercury, Copaiba, injections, Cauterizations, Quack Specifics, Antidotes, instruments, &c., should purchase this valuable work, for $1, of RICHARDSON, No. 1 Vesey-st.; ROSS & TOUSEY, No. 121 Nassau-st.; H. DEXTER & CO., No. 113 Nassau-st., New-York; and DR. WITT, No. 13 Frankfort-st.; or consult the Doctor, at No. 647 Broadway, (up stairs,) New-York, from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M.

"We concur with other papers in recommending Dr. LARMONT and his work."—*Courier des Etat Unis, German Die Reform, Dispatch, Staats Zeitung, National Democrat, Atlas, Medical Review, &c.*

NERVOUS AND SPECIAL DISEASES, MARRIAGE, &c. By C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., Ex-Professor of Special Pathology in the Syracuse Medical College, New-York. Price $1. GODFREY, Bookseller, No. 831 Broadway, or of the author, at No. 658 Broadway.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETters patent of England, and secured by the seal of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TRIESEMAR No. 1 is the effectual remedy for RELAXATION, SPERMATORRHŒA and EXHAUSTION OF THE SYSTEM. TRIESMAR No. 2 completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders for which Copaiva and Cubebs have generally been thought an antidote, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TRIESEMAR No. 3 is the great and sure remedy of the civilized world for all impurities of the system, as well as secondary symptoms; obviating the disastrous use of Mercury, as well as other deleterious ingredients, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. They are in the form of a lozenge, and may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected. Sold in tin cases at $3 each, or four $3 cases in one for $9, and in $27 cases, thus saving $9, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. Wholesale and retail by H. A. BARROW, No. 194 Bleecker-st., (four doors from Macdougal-st.,) New-York. Immediately on receipt of remittance, forwarded to any part of the world. Attendance and consultation from 11 to 2, and from 4 till 8 in the evening, and on Sunday till 11. Triesemar can also be obtained, by authority of Dr. Barrow, from

WELLS & CO., No. 115 Franklin-st., New-York, And J. WORTHINGTON, No. 206 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

"NEW MEDICAL BOOK.—DR. BOSTWICK'S Work on Seminal Diseases, Hints Before and After Marriage, Nervous Debility, Impotency and Kindred Affections, &c., &c., is before us, and we do not hesitate to say it is without exception the most truthful and useful work of the kind ever published, and it will be hailed by the profession as well as the public as a great benefactor to mankind. Quackery is here exposed and the truth told. It should be in every family, and in the hands of every young man and woman in the land."—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

Mailed by Dr. Bostwick, No. 3 Vesey-st.; Godfrey's, No. 831 Broadway; and by Dr. B. at his office, No. 35 East 12th-st., six doors west of Broadway, where Dr. B. will continue the practice of medicine and surgery. Price $1. All interviews and communications strictly confidential.

SURE CURE.—DR. POWERS, SUCCESSFULLY consulted with Dr. WARD, No. 12 Laight-st. He gives advice free, and guarantees an immediate cure or no pay. Glorious triumph of medicine. Dr. POWERS' sure specific remedies for syphilitic, mercurial and all other delicate diseases; for certainty unapproached, and for the entire eradication of disease, nothing beside can positively be relied upon; try them and be convinced. POWERS' Essence of Life restores the vigor of youth in four weeks. This marvelous agent restores manhood to the most shattered constitutions. Office No. 12 Laight-st. Dr. POWERS' French Preventive, the greatest invention of the age. Those who have used them are never without them. Price, $3 per dozen; mailed free on receipt of the price. Address Dr. POWERS, No. 12 Laight-st.

DR. COBBETT, MEMBER OF THE N. Y. University, (Medical College,) and Royal College of Surgeons, London, has removed from No. 19 Duane-st., to his present very convenient suite of offices, No. 36 Centre-st., between Chambers and Reade sts., with a private entrance at No. 6 City Hall-place, where he can be consulted with the most honorable confidence on all diseases affecting the urinary organs; thirty years in his present specialty, (three of which have been at the Hospitals of this City,) enable him to guarantee a cure in every case undertaken, or make no charge. Strictures of the urethra, impotency, seminal weaknesses, &c., treated on the most scientific principles. N. B.—As a proof of Dr. C.'s qualifications, he would call special attention to his Diplomas, which can be seen in his office.

DR. COOPER, NO. 14 DUANE-ST, MAY BE confidently consulted on all diseases of a private nature. A practice of 30 years, devoted to the treatment and cure of Syphilitic, Mercurial, and diseases of a delicate nature, enables Dr. C. to make speedy and permanent cures, no matter of how long standing the case may be. Strictures of the urethra and seminal weakness, brought on by a secret habit, effectually cured. The victims of misplaced confidence, who have been misled by quack advertisements, can call on Dr. C. with the certainty of being radically cured. N. B.—Dr. C. is a qualified physician and surgeon, and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New-York. Office hours from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M.

IMPORTANT TO THE MARRIED AND THOSE ABOUT TO BE MARRIED.—Dr. A. M. MAURICEAU, Professor of Diseases of Women, has just published the 160th edition of the valuable book, entitled "THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PRIVATE MEDICAL COMPANION," strictly intended for those whose health or circumstances forbid a too rapid increase of family. Price $1. Sold at his office, No. 129 Liberty-st., New-York; or can be sent by mail free of postage, to any part of the United States and Canada, by inclosing $1, and addressing Box No. 1,224 New-York City. For sale by H. RICHARDSON, at No. 1 Vesey-st., (Astor House,) and No. 18 Ann-st.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE—Containing nearly 300 pages and 150 fine plates and engravings of the anatomy of the sexual organs in a state of health and disease; with a treatise on self-abuse, its deplorable consequences upon the mind and body, with the author's plan of treatment—the only rational and successful mode of cure, as shown by the report of cases treated. A truthful adviser to the married and those contemplating marriage, who entertain doubts of their physical condition. Sent free of postage to any address, on receipt of 25 cents in specie or postage-stamps, by addressing Dr. LA CROIX, Albany, N. Y.

EDWARD H. DIXON, M. D., EDITOR OF the Scalpel, and Operating and Consulting Surgeon, No. 42 5th-av. Office consultations on the more obscure diseases of the pelvic viscera. Rupture, piles, varicocele, and fistula, radically cured without the knife or ligature. Office hours from 9 to 9, 1 to 3, and 7 to 9 evenings. Consultation fee, $5.

DR. VAN HAMBERT'S FEMALE MONTHLY PILLS are a safe remedy for obstruction, &c., from cold or any cause. $1 per box.

Coughs, Colds, &c., cured by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c., cured by Townsend's Sarsaparilla. Kennedy's Discovery. By GUION, No. 127 Bowery, New-York.

HO, YOUNG MAN!—YOU CAN NEVER BE cured by medicine. What you need is information. Knowledge is power. Read a tract I will send you for a dime, (no stamps,) and learn how you may avoid ruin without a doctor. LA ROY SUNDERLAND, Boston, Mass.

SOMETHING FOR EVERY LADY.—DR. WARD'S Great Benefactor. The great periodical remedy, infallible for the immediate removal of monthly obstructions. Office No. 12 Laight-st., near Canal, where Dr. WARD can be consulted confidentially, day or evening.

PRIVATE CONSULTATION.—DR. HUNTER has, for thirty years, confined his attention to diseases of a certain class, in which he has treated no less than fifty thousand cases, without an instance of failure. His great remedy, HUNTER'S RED DROP, cures certain diseases when regular treatment and all other remedies fail; cures without dieting or restriction in the habits of life; cures without the disgusting and sickening effects of all other remedies; cures in new cases in less than six hours; cures without the dreadful consequent effects of mercury, but possesses the peculiarly valuable property of annihilating the rank and poisonous taint that the blood is sure to absorb, unless his remedy is used. This is what he claims for it, and what no other will accomplish. Its value in this respect has become so well known, that scientific men in every department of medical knowledge begin to appreciate it, for hardly a week passes that he is not consulted by druggists, chemists and physicians, in regard to some pitiful patient, who has exhausted the whole field of the faculty, and still the disease will appear. Its popularity is so great, that there is not a quack doctor in the City that has not attacked it; and when they find their lies are not so easily swallowed, they then pretend that they can make it. It is $1 a vial, and cannot be obtained genuine anywhere but at the old office, No. 3 Division-st. Book for 15 three cent stamps, 300 pages, 100 colored illustrations. The best work out.

MACHINERY, &c.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR MACHINES.—Messrs. Aspinwall & Woolsey's patent.—GEORGE B. HARTSON, No. 111 East 42d-st., continues to execute orders, and gives his personal attention to the erection of the above machines, and will also furnish plans and estimates for complete sugar refineries, with all the latest improvements.

STEAM ENGINES.—A LARGE ASSORTMENT on stock, from 5 to 100 horse-power. Also portables of various sizes, and finest quality, for sale at our works a Paterson, N. J., or at depôt and store No. 13 Dey-st., New-York. Also flax, hemp, and rope machinery made to order. TODD & RAFFERTY.

FOR SALE—ONE SECOND-HAND ENGINE; just been overhauled; in complete order; 15 horse-power. Will be sold low if applied for soon. Inquire at No. 643 Water-st.

WINES AND LIQUORS.

FINE OLD WINES AND BRANDIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—WM. HUGHES & SON are now selling the best old Bourbon, Monongahela Scotch, Irish and Rye Whiskies at the lowest market prices. A variety of fine brandies and gins constantly on hand. Also an assortment of syrups and cordials for bar and table use. We ask particular attention to our fine old cider brandy, port, sherry, Madeira, claret and other wines in variety. WM. HUGHES & SON, Nos. 319 and 321 7th-av., between 30th and 31st sts., N. Y.

NATURAL FLOWERS ALL THE YEAR ROUND. Bouquets, Baskets and Pyramids of Flowers, Wreaths, Crosses, &c., &c., furnished to parties, weddings and funerals. Rustic Stands, Hanging Baskets, &c., &c. Having made large contracts for the season, we are prepared to fill at short notice all orders for the above. Orders for New-Year's day now received. DAVID CLARKE, 643 Broadway, corner Bleecker-st. Nurseries and conservatories, Broadway and 77th-st., Bloomingdale.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

PASSPORTS.—All persons leaving the United States will require to have *Passports* from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State at Washington, or by the Passport Agent at port of embarkation.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage.....$130
Second Cabin Passage.....75

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage.....$110
Second Cabin Passage.....60

The ships from New-York call at Cork harbor. The ships from Boston call at Halifax and Cork harbor.

PERSIA, Capt. Judkins. AFRICA, Capt. Shannon.
ARABIA, Capt. J. Stone. CANADA, Capt. J. Leitch.
ASIA, Capt. E. G. Lott. AMERICA, Capt. Hockley.
AUSTRALASIAN, Capt. Cook. NIAGARA, Capt. Moodie.
EUROPA, Capt. Anderson.
SCOTIA, (now building.)

These vessels carry a clear white light at masthead; green on starboard bow; red on port bow.

EUROPA, Anderson, leaves Boston, Wednesday, December 25.
AMERICA, Cook, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 1.
NIAGARA, Moodie, leaves Boston, Wednesday, January 8.
ASIA, Lott, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 15.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced Surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Gold, Silver, Bullion, Specie, Jewelry, Precious Stones or Metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor, and the value therefor therein expressed. For freight or passage, apply to E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling Green.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS FOR EUROPE.

By order of the Secretary of State, all passengers leaving the United States are required to provide themselves with passports before they will be allowed on board the steamer.

Passengers will not be subjected to any trouble or delay in procuring them if they call for instructions at the Company's Offices, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

STEAM WEEKLY BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL.—Landing and embarking passengers at Queenstown, Ireland. The Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company intend dispatching their full-powered Clyde-built iron Steamships as follows:

EDINBURGH.....SATURDAY, Jan. 4
ATNA.....SATURDAY, Jan. 11
KANGAROO.....SATURDAY, Jan. 18

And every SATURDAY, at noon, from Pier No. 44 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

First Cabin	$75	Steerage	$30
First Cabin to London	80	Steerage to London	33
First Cabin to Paris	85	Steerage to Paris	38
First Cabin to Hamburg	85	Steerage to Hamburg	35

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Persons wishing to bring out their friends can buy tickets here at the following rates, to New-York: From Liverpool or Queenstown, First Cabin, $75, $85 and $105. Steerage from Liverpool, $40. From Queenstown, $30.

These Steamers have superior accommodations for passengers, and carry experienced Surgeons. They are built in water-tight iron sections, and have patent fire annihilators on board.

For further information apply, in Liverpool, to WILLIAM INMAN, Agent, No. 22 Water-st.; in Glasgow to WM. INMAN, No. 4 St. Enoch-square; in Queenstown to C. & W. SEYMOUR & Co.; in Cork to KIVES & MAGEY, No. 61 King William-st.; in Paris to JULES DECOUE, No. 5 Place de la Bourse; in Philadelphia to JOHN G. DALE, No. 111 Walnut-st., or at the Company's Offices.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, N. Y.

FOR HAVANA, VIA NASSAU, N. P.—THE British and North American Royal Mail Steamship KARNAK, Capt. LE MESSURIER, will sail for the above ports, from the Company's wharf at Jersey City, on

TUESDAY.....Jan. 7, 1862 | MONDAY.....March 3
TUESDAY.....Feb. 4, 1862 | SATURDAY.....March 29

Passage money to Nassau.....$45
Passage money to Havana.....60

All persons leaving the United States are required to have passports from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State at Washington, or by the Passport Agent at port of embarkation.

For freight or passage apply to E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

PASSAGE TO LIVERPOOL.—THE SPLENdid British steamship DAMASCUS, JOHN HOSKELL, Esq., Commander, at Pier No. 4 North River, will sail for Liverpool, direct, on 2d January. This vessel is a great favorite in the Mediterranean as a passenger ship, and offers very superior accommodations to first-class passengers (only.) A limited number will be taken at the lowest rates. Apply to HOWLAND & ASPINWALL, No. 54 South-st.

REMITTANCE TO IRELAND, &c.—TAPSCOTT & CO. continue to draw drafts, as they have done for the past twenty-five years. Those wishing to remit money to their friends can be supplied with drafts for any amount, payable on demand in any part of Great Britain or Ireland, by applying at their old-established place of business, No. 86 South-st., New-York.

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP AMERICA.—FOR LIVERPOOL.—The AMERICA, JAMES STONE' Commander, will sail from the Company's Dock, at Jersey City, with the mails and passengers for Europe, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 1. Passengers are requested to be on board by 8 o'clock A. M. The SIA will sail on the 15th January. E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling Green.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU, No. 262 Broadway.—Passports issued through J. B. NONES free of charge, upon proofs made before him.

PROPOSALS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, Dec. 6, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS W

THE MASON-SLIDELL CORRESPONDENCE

[Continued from First Page.]

pears to be the British side of it against my own country. But I am relieved from all embarrassment on that subject. I had hardly fallen into that line of argument, when I discovered that I was really defending and maintaining, not an exclusively British interest, but an old, honored and cherished American cause, not upon British authorities, but upon principles that constitute a large portion of the distinctive policy by which the United States have developed the resources of a continent, and thus becoming a considerable maritime power, have won the respect and confidence of many nations. These principles were laid down for us in 1804, by JAMES MADISON, when Secretary of State in the Administration of THOMAS JEFFERSON, in instructions given to JAMES MONROE, our Minister to England. Although the case before him concerned a description of persons different from those who are incidently the subjects of the present discussion, the ground he assumed then was the same I now occupy, and the arguments by which he sustained himself upon it have been an inspiration to me in preparing this reply.

"Whenever," he says, "property found in a neutral vessel is supposed to be liable on any ground to capture and condemnation, the rule in all cases is that the question shall not be decided by the captor, but be carried before a legal tribunal, where a regular trial may be had, and where the captor himself is liable to damages for an abuse of his power. Can it be reasonable, then, for just, that a belligerent commander who is thus restricted, and thus responsible in a case of mere property, of trivial amount, shall be permitted, without recurring to any tribunal whatever, to examine the crew of a neutral vessel, to decide the important question of their respective allegiances, and to carry that decision into execution by forcing every individual he may choose into a service abhorrent to his feelings, cutting him off from his most tender connections, exposing his mind and his person to the most humiliating discipline, and his life itself to the greatest danger? Reason, justice and humanity unite in protesting against so extravagant a proceeding."

If I decide this case in favor of my own Government, I must disavow its most cherished principles, and reverse and forever abandon its essential policy. The country cannot afford the sacrifice. If I maintain those principles and adhere to that policy, I must surrender the case itself. It will be seen, therefore, that this Government could not deny the justice of the claim presented to us in this respect upon its merits. We are asked to do to the British nation just what we have always insisted all nations ought to do to us.

The claim of the British Government is not made in a discourteous manner. This Government, since its first organization, has never used more guarded language in a similar case.

In coming to my conclusion I have not forgotten that if the safety of this Union required the detention of the captured persons, it would be the right and duty of this Government to detain them. But the effectual check and waning proportions of the existing insurrection, as well as the comparative unimportance of the captured persons themselves, when dispassionately weighed, palpably forbid me from resorting to that defence. Nor am I aware that American citizens are not in any case to be unnecessarily surrendered for any purpose into the keeping of a foreign State. Only the captured persons, however, or others who are interested in them, could justly raise a question on that ground.

Nor have I been tempted at all by suggestions that cases might be found in history where Great Britain refused to yield to other nations, and even to ourselves, claims like that which is now before us. Those cases occurred when Great Britain, as well as the United States, was the home of generations which with all their peculiar interests and passions, have passed away. She could in no other way so effectually disavow any such injury as we think she does now, by assuming as her own the ground upon which we then stood. It would tell little for our claims to the character of a just and magnanimous people if we should so far consent to be guided by the law of retaliation, as to lift up buried injuries from their graves to oppose against what national consistency and the national conscience compel us to regard as a claim intrinsically right.

Putting behind me all suggestions of this kind, I prefer to express my satisfaction that, by the adjustment of the present case upon principles confessedly American, and yet, as I trust, mutually satisfactory to both of the nations concerned, a question is finally and rightly settled between them, which heretofore exhausting not only all forms of peaceful discussion, but also the arbitrament of war itself, for more than half a century alienated the two countries from each other, and perplexed with fears and apprehensions all other nations.

The four persons in question are now held in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheerfully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them.

I avail myself of this occasion to offer to your Lordship a renewed assurance of my very high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

M. Thouvenel to M. Mercier.

[TRANSLATION.]

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, PARIS, Dec. 3 1861.

SIR: The arrest of Messieurs MASON and SLIDELL, on board the English packet *Trent*, by an American cruiser, has produced in France, if not the same emotion as in England, at least extreme astonishment and sensation. Public sentiment was at once engrossed with the lawfulness and the consequence of such an act, and the impression which has resulted from this, has not been, for an instant, doubtful.

The fact has appeared so much out of accordance with the ordinary rules of international law, that it has chosen to throw the responsibility for it exclusively on the commander of the *San Jacinto*.

It is not yet given to us to know whether this supposition is well founded, and the Government of the Emperor has, therefore, also had to examine the question raised by the taking away of the two passengers from the *Trent*. The desire to contribute to prevent a conflict, perhaps imminent, between two Powers, for which it is animated by sentiments equally friendly, and the duty to uphold, for the purpose of placing the rights of its own flag under shelter from any attack, certain principles essential to the security of neutrals, have, after mature reflection, convinced it that it could not, under the circumstances, remain entirely silent.

If, to our deep regret, the Cabinet at Washington were disposed to approve of the conduct of the commander of the *San Jacinto*, it would be either by considering Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL as enemies, or as seeing in them nothing but rebels. In the one as in the other case, there would be a forgetfulness, extremely annoying, of principles upon which we have always found the United States in agreement with us.

By what title, in effect, would the American cruiser, in the first case, have arrested Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL? The United States have admitted with us, in the treaties concluded between the two countries, that the freedom of the flag extends itself over the persons found on board, should they be enemies of one of the two parties, unless the question is of military people actually in the service of the enemy. Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL were, therefore, by virtue of this principle, which we have never found any difficulty in causing to be inserted in our treaties of friendship and commerce, perfectly at liberty under the neutral flag of England. Doubtless it will not be pretended that they could be considered as contraband of war. That which constitutes contraband of war is not yet it is true, exactly settled; the limitations are not absolutely the same for all the Powers; but, in what relates to persons, the special stipulations which are found in the treaties concerning military people, define plainly the character of those who only can be seized upon by belligerents; but there is no need to demonstrate that Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL could not be assimilated to persons in that category. There remains, therefore, to invoke in explanation of their capture, only the pretext that they were the bearers of official dispatches from the enemy; but this is the moment to recall a circumstance which governs all this affair, and which renders the conduct of the American cruiser unjustifiable.

The *Trent* was not destined to a point belonging to one of the belligerents; she was carrying to a neutral country her cargo and her passengers, and moreover it was in a neutral port that they were taken. If it were admissible that, under such conditions, the neutral flag does not completely cover the persons and merchandise it carries, its immunity would be nothing more than an idle word. At any moment the commerce and the navigation of third Powers would have to suffer from their innocent and even their indirect relations with the one or the other of the belligerents. These last would no longer find themselves as having only the right to exact from the neutral flag entire impartiality, and to interdict all intermeddling on his part in acts of hostility; they would impose on his freedom of commerce and navigation restrictions which modern international law has refused to admit as legitimate, and we should, in a word, fall back upon vexatious practices, against which, in other epochs, no power has more earnestly protested than the United States. If the Cabinet of Washington would only look on the two persons arrested as rebels, whom it is always lawful to seize, the question, to place it on other ground, could not be solved, however, in a sense in favor of the commander of the *San Jacinto*. There would be, in such a case, misapprehension of the principle which makes a vessel a portion of the territory of the nation whose flag it bears, and violation of that immunity, which prohibits a foreign sovereign, by consequence, from the exercise of his jurisdiction. It certainly is not necessary to recall to mind, with what energy, under every circumstance, the Government of the United States has maintained this immunity, and the right of asylum which is the consequence of it.

Not wishing to enter upon a more deep discussion of the questions raised by the capture of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL, I have said enough, I think, to settle the point that the Cabinet of Washington could not, without striking a blow at the principles which all neutral nations are alike interested in holding in respect, nor without taking the attitude of contradiction of its own course up to this time, give its approbation to the proceedings of the commander of the *San Jacinto*. In this state of things, it evidently should not, according to our views, hesitate about the determination to be taken.

Lord LYONS is already instructed to present the demand for satisfaction which the English Cabinet is under the necessity of reducing to form, and which consists in the immediate release of the persons taken from on board the *Trent*, and in sending explanations which may take from this act its offensive character toward the British flag. The Federal Government will be inspired by a just and exalted feeling in deferring to these requests. One would search in vain to what end, for what interest, it would hazard to provoke, by a different attitude, a rupture with Great Britain.

For ourselves, we should see in that fact a deplorable complication in every respect, of the difficulties with which the Cabinet of Washington has already to struggle, and a precedent of a nature seriously to disquiet all the Powers which continue out side of the existing contest. We believe that we give evidence of loyal friendship for the Cabinet of Washington by not permitting it to remain in ignorance, in this condition of things, of our manner of regarding it. I request you, therefore, Sir, to seize the first occasion, of opening yourself frankly to Mr. SEWARD, and if he asks it, send him a copy of this dispatch.

Receive, Sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

THOUVENEL.

Monsieur HENRI MERCIER, Minister of the Emperor at Washington.

Mr. Seward to M. Mercier.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1861.

SIR: I have submitted to the President the copy you were so good as to give me, of a dispatch addressed to you on the 3d of December instant, concerning the recent proceedings of Capt. WILKES, in arresting certain persons on board of the British contract mail steamer *Trent*.

Before receiving the paper, however, the President had decided upon the disposition to be made of the subject which has caused so much anxiety in Europe. That disposition of the subject, as I think, renders unnecessary any discussion of it in reply to the comments of M. THOUVENEL. I am permitted, however, to say that M. THOUVENEL has not been in error in supposing, first, that the Government of the United States has not acted in any spirit of disregard of the rights or of the sensibilities of the British nation, and that he is equally just in assuming that the United States would consistently vindicate by their practice, on this occasion, the character they have so long maintained as an advocate of the most liberal principles concerning the rights of neutral States in maritime war.

When the French Government shall come to see at large the views of this Government, and those of the Government of Great Britain, on the subject now in question, and to compare them with the views expressed by M. THOUVENEL, on the part of France, it will probably perceive that, while it must be admitted that these three Powers are equally impressed with the same desire for the establishment of principles favorable to neutral rights, there is, at the same time, not such an entire agreement concerning the application of those principles as is desirable to secure that important object.

The Government of the United States will be happy, if the occasion which has elicited this correspondence can be improved so as to secure a more definite agreement upon the whole subject by all maritime Powers.

You will assure M. THOUVENEL that this Government appreciates as well the frankness of his explanations, as the spirit of friendship and good will towards the United States in which they are expressed.

It is a sincere pleasure for the United States to exchange assurances of a friendship which had its origin in associations the most sacred in the history of both countries.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

M. HENRI MERCIER, &c., &c., &c.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Seward.

WASHINGTON, Friday Dec. 27.

The Hon. William H. Seward, &c., &c., &c.:

SIR: I have this morning received the note which you did me the honor to address to me yesterday, in answer to Earl RUSSELL'S dispatch of the 30th of November last, relative to the removal of Mr. MASON, Mr. SLIDELL, Mr. MCFARLAND and Mr. EUSTIS from the British mail packet *Trent*. I will, without any loss of time, forward to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the important communication which you have made to me.

I will also without delay do myself the honor to confer with you personally on the arrangements to be made for delivering the four gentlemen to me, in order that they may be placed again under the protection of the British flag.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

LYONS.

The Decision of the Government in the Trent Affair.

From the National Intelligencer.

Our readers will find in another part of to-day's *Intelligencer* the correspondence had between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States in relation to the question of international law raised by the proceeding of Capt. WILKES in taking from the British steamer *Trent* Messrs. MASON, SLIDELL, MACFARLAND, and EUSTIS. They will also find a copy of the representations made on the same subject by the Government of France, together with the reply of Mr. SEWARD in answer to these representations.

It will be seen that Earl RUSSELL, Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, after reciting the circumstances under which he understood the capture of these parties to have been made, proceeds to characterize it as an outrage on the British flag, and, after expressing the hope and belief that it had not been authorized by our Government, asks, as the reparation appropriate to such an aggression, that the four gentlemen designated should be released, and that an apology should be given for what the Government of Great Britain deems an affront to her flag.

In responding to this demand, Mr. SEWARD, the Secretary of State for the United States, after reviewing the circumstances under which the arrest was effected, according to the report of our naval officers, and thus developing the inaccuracies and omissions of the British statement, proceeds to analyze the facts and the principles of public law involved in the case, and arrives at the conclusion that the neglect of Capt. WILKES, partly voluntary as it was on his part, to bring the *Trent* in for trial as lawful prize, may be justly held to operate as a forfeiture of the belligerent right of capture accruing under the law of nations, and that the Government of the United States, as well from this consideration as in consistency with its own traditional policy respecting the maritime rights of neutrals, would be in its own wrong if it should refuse a compliance with the British demand so far as relates to the disposition that shall be made of the persons taken into custody by Capt. WILKES under circumstances believed to be justly open to exception on both the grounds thus indicated. So far as regards the "apology" asked by the British Government, it will be observed that none is tendered, because a simple statement of the facts, as they are, suffices to show that no offence could have been intended on the part of our Government, as it had given no instructions whatever in the premises, while the proceeding of Capt. WILKES, in so far as it falls to inure to the benefit of his Government and to conform to the rules of public law, was dictated by considerations of kindness and forbearance, for which certainly no "apology" is due to the British Government.

We learn that the decision of the President in this affair, as announced and explained in the lucid dispatch of Mr. SEWARD, has the approval of every member of the Cabinet, and, whatever may be the disappointment of any at the result to which the Administration has come in settling a question constitutionally devolved upon the Executive branch of the Government, we are sure that all will applaud the firmness and sincerity with which the Administration, resisting a natural tendency impressed by the conceived drift of public opinion in our own country, has resolved to do what it believes to be right in the premises. And it surely should "give pause" to all who may be disposed to challenge the propriety of the resolution to which the Administration has come, when they note that a contrary decision would leave us in opposition not only to the views of Great Britain, but also to those which the Government of France announces respecting the principles of public law involved in this transaction. The latter Government, in making the declaration it does, under this head, is not open to the suspicion of being animated by any unfriendly sentiment, or by the vindictive feelings which may be imputed to the British Government in making a demand while as yet smarting under a conceived insult to its flag. Least of all can the Government of France be supposed to act in subserviency to any considerations extrinsic to the international aspects of this case as one of public law important to all maritime Powers, since we find M. THOUVENEL merely anticipating from the traditions of our past history the determination to which our Government had come in advance of receiving the representations which the Government of France conceived itself called to make in the interest of the law of nations.

It will not be forgotten by the attentive reader of this journal that while seeking to show, as we have done, that the act of Capt. WILKES was justifiable according to the British precedents, we have at the same time admitted that there was grave reason to doubt whether, in consistency with the construction heretofore placed on the international code by the United States, our Government would be able at all points to defend the proceeding. This we indicated under several heads in the *Intelligencer* of the 9th inst., in an article entitled the "Diplomatic Equilibrium," and in which we cited some opinions announced by Mr. MADISON in conducting the argument on the part of the United States against the assumed right of the British Government to visit our ships and take from them, by a process as summary as that of which it now complains, certain alleged subjects, on the plea that they were deserters from the British service. At a still later day—in the *Intelligencer* of the 14th instant—we took occasion to repeat "that the only doubt raised in the case of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL, was not whether their arrest is justifiable according to British rulings and precedents, *but whether our Government could afford to indorse these precedents and rulings as constituting sound national law, good for all time to come as well as for present emergencies.*"

It appears that the Administration has refused to indorse them, and, discarding all justification that might be derived from ancient rulings of the British Admiralty Courts, and even from the principles of public law as defined by many reputable publicists, has determined to adhere strictly to the line of the precedents marked out by our own Government in the Madisonian era of the Republic, especially as in the very act of doing so we are able to exclude the Government of Great Britain from the exercise of a pretended right which, so late as the year 1842, in the negotiations had between Mr. WEBSTER and Lord ASHBURTON, the latter refused formally to renounce. We allude, of course, to the claim of the British Government to impress alleged British sailors from American ships on the high seas. In those negotiations Mr. WEBSTER then announced as a principle of duty to our own citizens, whether native-born or naturalized, by which the United States would stand, that "the practice of impressing seamen from American vessels cannot hereafter be allowed to take place." Lord ASHBURTON, in declining to entertain the subject, expressed the "hope that a satisfactory arrangement respecting it might be made, so as to set at rest all apprehension and anxiety." In view of the position now taken by the British Government, in objecting to the summary proceedings of Capt. WILKES, we may safely assume that Great Britain will never again uphold her naval commanders in visiting American ships and searching for alleged British subjects, to be seized and impressed into the British service without further ceremony.

Whatever, therefore, may be said by any in the way of exception to the extreme terms of the demand made by the British Government, in the case of the *Trent*, it is at least just to admit that the case has been so adjusted by our Government as to subserve, we would hope, the great cause of neutral rights against the assumptions heretofore asserted by England, but now repudiated by that Power in common with France and the United States. The law of nations, as traditionally interpreted by our Government has received a new sanction, though at the cost, it may be, of some national sensibilities waked into disproportionate activity by the temporary exacerbations of our civil feuds. The latter, let us remember, are but for a day. The law of nations is for all time.

HOW THE NEWS IS RECEIVED.

BOSTON, Mass., Saturday, Dec. 28.

The public here received the announcement of the surrender of the rebel Commissioners, Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL, very philosophically, having generally anticipated such a result as the most direct means of avoiding a foreign war.

The street talk is that Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL are not worth their board, either here or elsewhere.

MR. WEED'S LETTERS FROM EUROPE.

Editorial Correspondence of the Evening Journal.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1861.

While Americans are rejoicing, as they have heartfelt reason to rejoice, at the capture of two deliberate, designing traitors, Englishmen are roaring "like mad" about the insult to their flag. And here, even among our early allies and England's hereditary enemies, the public feeling is against us! This, while I am informed of some of the causes, is nevertheless unaccountable. The loyal Americans have set themselves earnestly at work to correct this perverse sentiment.

In England the storm is not only violent, but pervading. All classes "flare up." In the indignation about the "insult" to his "flag," John Bull forgets that we have only done what he not only claims the right to do, but has been doing forever. But reason must succeed to passion, and England will open her eyes, by and by, to the pages which record both her precepts and her examples.

All unprepared as we are, for war with England, and greatly as such a calamity is to be deprecated, I cannot, even with the wrathful denunciations of London and Paris ringing in my ears, but bless God that such atrocious criminals as MASON and SLIDELL—men who plunged our country into a civil war, arraying, in deadly strife, brother against brother—have been arrested in their infernal career. GWIN, too, is caged!

You will probably have received, ere this reaches you, a letter from Gen. SCOTT, on this subject, published here and in London, firm in principle, but conciliatory in spirit. The veteran's whole heart is in the cause.

The complete success of the Naval Expedition is cheering. Commander DUPONT has justified the confidence reposed in him. How nobly the conduct of Lieut. DRAYTON, of the navy, contrasts with that of recreants who desert their flag! I knew him well, in the Mediterranean, ten years ago, and have ever since the war commenced, been confidently looking for evidences of his patriotism.

Gen. DIX has struck a telling blow at the right moment and in the right place! The banner of the Union is planted upon the "sacred soil" of Accomac! The hair of WISE must "stand on end" more fiercely than ever.

Several Secessionists came over in the *Arago*. They were quiet during the passage, but are avowed and active here. Prominent among them is my personal acquaintance and once friend, Col. WINTHROP, of New-Orleans, whose Massachusetts origin and Whig ancestry gives effect to his plausible but vindictive hostility. Of this gentleman, with whom my relations have been pleasant, I should not feel at liberty to speak, if his course here was not one of avowed hostility to our Government, and if I were not satisfied that he first visited Canada, and is now in Europe, as an emissary of the Confederate States.

We go over to London this evening. T. W.

COL. ARTHUR RANKIN RESIGNS.

DETROIT, Mich., Saturday, Dec. 28.

ARTHUR RANKIN, member of the Canadian Parliament, and Colonel of the Union Lancers, deeming further connection with the United States service improper in view of our present complications with England, has resigned his commission and will return to Canada.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

OUTPOST DUTY—SKIRMISHES WITH THE ENEMY—FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE ABANDONED BY THE REBELS.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH NEW-YORK CAVALRY, HUNTER'S CHAPEL, VA., Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1861.

The horses, poor animals, are the worst sufferers from the inclement weather now prevailing, as they are without any covering or shelter save a few fine twigs, which their considerate riders have thrown over them. Notwithstanding their exposure, the horses belonging to our regiment are in a remarkably good condition, and the mortality among them is very small, when compared with that in other cavalry regiments in our immediate vicinity, which I understand are losing at the rate of four horses per week. Our average has been, thus far, one per month.

We are now doing outpost and patrol duty. A detachment of the regiment (Companies B, C and E) is now stationed at Annandale, which is the outpost of our division. We had a skirmish with the enemy a few days since. The following are the particulars of it: A detachment of the Forty-fifth New-York and our regiment occupied the advanced post. During the afternoon our videttes noticed a body of cavalry advancing on the Fairfax road, and in consequence of the similarity of their uniform, mistook them for a detachment of the Lincoln cavalry, which had gone out that morning. They approached to within a few rods of our videttes, when they fired their carbines, killing one of the Forty-fifth, and then charged, driving in our pickets and taking 12 prisoners. We were stationed in the woods, behind Annandale Church, and hearing the long roll beat, immediately formed in line outside of the woods, and opened a heavy fire on them, and charged. They retreated in all directions, we pursuing them and taking two prisoners and some horses, sabres, revolvers, &c. The effect of our fire was not ascertained. We had 25 men and the enemy numbered over 150.

On the 17th the enemy advanced with a battery of artillery, about 300 infantry and 200 cavalry, and opened a heavy fire of shot and shell on us. About 1,000 infantry immediately came up from the main body. Our battalion was drawn up in line behind the Annandale Church. We were commanded as follows: Lieut.-Col. NAGLE, commanding battalion; Capt. SAMUEL GENTHER, First Squadron; Capt. OLMSTEAD, Second Squadron. We waited in expectation of an advance about 15 minutes, when the enemy ceased firing. Company G was then ordered to advance, and if possible get their position and strength. The force advanced to the position previously occupied by the enemy, and found they had retreated. They then scoured the surrounding country, but the the rebels were nowhere visible.

On the 18th, Gen. STAHL made a reconnoissance in force. We were supported on the right and left by infantry, and a battery of artillery was held in reserve. We went within two and a half miles of Fairfax. The cavalry was commanded by Lieut.-Col. H. F. NAGLE, and the advance guard by Capt. SAMUEL GENTHER, and Lieut. OVERTON. No signs of the enemy were discovered, and I have since learned that they have evacuated Fairfax. A repetition of the mistake mentioned, in the first skirmish alluded to, is made impossible by the day and night signals which are now in vogue. We can distinguish by night and day our own forces from the enemy. The health of the soldiers of our division is good. The few cases of sickness we have are principally affections of the lungs and throat; the typhoid fever and measles, with which we were troubled during the warmer months, is now fast disappearing.

THE WAR IN THE WEST.

OUR ST. LOUIS CORRESPONDENCE.

ARRIVAL OF TWELVE HUNDRED PRISONERS—DR. M'DOWELL—HALLECK AND THE BRIDGE BURNERS—THE TAX ON REBELS—CHRISTMAS DINNER—HOSPITALS, ETC.

ST. LOUIS, Tuesday, Dec. 24.

The *piece de resistance* in the feast of news is, of course, the arrival of twelve hundred of the valiant secesehers who were so nicely caught by Gen. POPE while on their way to join Gen. PRICE, on the south bank of the Osage. Their rebel sympathizers in this city were incredulous about the success of our arms. The first report sent in here by Gen. POPE, stated that the number of captured was thirteen hundred; a scribbler for the Missouri *Democrat* subsequently wrote down that the whole count was nine hundred and five; this gave the secesehers heart, and many predicted that not more than three hundred would ever reach here. It quite knocked the conceit out of them when they witnessed the immense train with thirty-five cars and five locomotives, to learn that this was but the first installment, and then they realized the full sense of the disaster. It was well-known at headquarters, that the whole number of rebels bagged in the expedition was nearly 2,500, but the commanders took the modest and sensible plan of under, rather than over-estimating their victory. The crowds of people, curious, exultant, and sympathizing, began to gather at the depôt of the Pacific Railroad, as early as six o'clock, expecting to witness a very fine spectacle. The weather was very cold, and some three inches of ice and snow on the ground made it anything but comfortable for the understandings of the anxious crowd. Hundreds would come up, and after effectually chilling their extremities by standing half an hour in the cold, would return home. So many came, however, as to more than fill the places of those who left, and when the cars arrived at 11 o'clock, there was still quite an assemblage. They were, however, doomed to disappointment. A regiment of infantry (Second Ohio,) had been detailed to receive them at the depôt, and after a conference among the officers, it was decided that they should be left in the cars until morning. An efficient guard was thereupon stationed round the depôt, and this morning they were escorted to their quarters at McDOWELL'S College, at an early hour. It is said three of them were shot in attempting to escape, at Sedalia. The selection of this building for their accommodation has been a matter of surprise to many, inasmuch as it is neither very well adapted to the purpose by its construction or location. The Arsenal, just beyond the city limits, would have been infinitely more safe, as well as effectually excluding the prisoners from all communication with the citizens. Other motives have, I suspect, influenced the Major-General in making this selection. Being the first large haul of prisoners we have made, it is probably deemed prudent to make them contribute to our glory by being made a sort of spectacle. Our soldiers taken at Bull Run were subjected to this kind of indignity, and worse at Richmond and Charleston, and certainly the victims ought not to complain of the treatment. But to give a relish and effect to the scene, the Medical College has been selected because is is the property of Dr. MCDOWELL, an old gray-headed, eccentric, but skillful surgeon, who has practiced and taught in St. Louis for twenty years.

The Doctor is, at this moment, in the Southern army, as the Brigade-Surgeon, under that notable General, JEFF. THOMPSON. He has been for years one of the celebrities of the city—full of visionary and extravagant schemes, as well as some good strong common sense. About ten years ago, he entertained a most intense antipathy against the Catholic Irish, and might have been seen prowling along the streets at midnight, bristling with pistols and bowie-knives, under the hallucination that he was being pursued by the Irish. More recently his monomania was turned against the Germans, whom he has never failed to abuse in public and private. So determined was his hatred towards them that, since his advent in the South, he has nearly suffered for his abuse of "the Dutch" at Mobile, New Orleans and Memphis, forgetting that Dutchmen were enlisted in the Confederate army as well as in that of the Union.

The Doctor manifested either wonderful prescience or wonderful folly in the matter of this rebellion. Years ago we heard him declare that the South would make war upon the North; so confident was he of it that, after the Irish had threatened to mob his College, he purchased eight cannon and some five hundred muskets. These cannon and muskets, it is hardly necessary to say, were given to the South, fulfilling promises made months before. About the time of the Camp Jackson capture, the eight brass pieces were mounted and driven off under cover to New-Madrid, where they probably remain. Shortly afterwards he followed them, and, at last accounts, was on a tour down the river, begging for clothing and blankets for JEFF. THOMPSON'S ragged crew.

There is a kind of sweet revenge in thus turning this old arsenal of a notorious traitor to its present purpose. But the question arises whether this kind of retaliation is in keeping with the dignity of a great Nation that is avowedly suppressing a rebellion. It may do for the insurgents to lead their captives in triumph through their public streets, after the old Roman fashion, but if we would hold the respect of future generations and our civilized neighbors, we should be sparing of such vindictiveness. The State Tobacco Warehouse, situated in the centre of the city, it is said, is being prepared for the same purpose, and probably for similar reasons, inasmuch as it was long used in those "days of terror" as an armory and drill-room for the State Guard.

Gen. HALLECK has, however, to yield slightly to the pressure of public opinion. It is deemed necessary to overawe the rebellious element still latent in the city and State by some such examples of severity. From the extreme mildness of the "swearing process" we are gradually swinging to the martial severity of treating those found in arms as traitors, and those who offer aid and comfort to them as traitors by misprision. The recent outrageous destruction of the culverts' bridges, stations and telegraph on the North Missouri and Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, have brought out a severe order from Gen. HALLECK, in which the guilty parties are threatened with immediate death. A most significant paragraph is that the commandants of posts along the lines are instructed to impress into service the Secessionists of the vicinity *and their slaves*, for the purpose of repairing the damages to the roads. As also the clause holding the towns and counties where such damages are incurred responsible for the amount, unless they can show that a superior force of the enemy prevented them from stopping the outrage. There can be no doubt that this work of destruction is part of a general plan of PRICE to lay waste the country north of Missouri. A considerable number of copies of the *Army Argus*, containing inflammatory appeals from PRICE and JACKSON, have been spread through the country, and recruiting is being briskly carried on in secret. The sudden appearance of Gen. PRENTICE upon Lexington put a stop to the crossing of large numbers of these marauders. The ferry-boat used for this purpose has been taken down the Missouri towards Waverley, and will undoubtedly be used for the same purpose whenever the ice will permit. The number of recruits which have flocked to the rebel standard is not such as might have been expected; they are of the better class, but the first levy drained the State of those young witless sprouts of chivalry, many of whom have paid the penalty of their criminal folly by their lives. Hundreds of ambitious, though misguided young men, have rushed wildly upon their fate on the many bloody battle-fields that dot the State of Missouri from side to side. Their names are nowhere recorded; the story of their fall will never be told; their mad pulses have ceased to beat, struck by the deadly bullet or the more fatal camp fever.

The order for levying contributions on the Secessionists of St. Louis for the support of the Union refugees gave an intense satisfaction to the dragons of loyalty, the "Abs and rabs," but there is more difficulty in enforcing its provisions than might at first be conceived. Many of them who were once furious Southern Rights men are now convinced of the hopelessness of the struggle, and are anxious to be called Union men. Most of the true Secessionists are fast ridding themselves of their incumbrances in the way of property at a sacrifice, preparing to move either to Canada or Dixie. L. A. BENOIST, the banker has been assessed in the sum of $400, which he will probably pay. Others, whose names are not yet known, are mulcted in similar sums. There is great trouble in fixing the treason on the parties, as few of those whose names are on Gen. HALLECK'S list but can bring some kind of Union friends to testify to their conservatism, and thus beg off from the infliction.

A very excellent joke is perpetrated at the expense of the rebel prisoners just arrived. It appears that their rebel friends in St. Louis have been promised that PRICE'S whole army would be in St. Louis to take their Christmas dinner. Some were silly enough to believe it, but here comes the advanced guard of two thousand just in time to enjoy the Christmas cheer of their much despised Uncle Sam. It is not too much to hope that another installment may yet reach here before the New Year's calls are being made, in which case they will qe duly honored upon that auspicious occasion. Alas! poor PRICE! Where is the two hundred millions of property he was to divide among his followers?

There is just now considerable talk in consequence of the deplorable state in which some of the hospitals are managed. The complaints are principally traceable to the regimental and post hospitals under the care of the surgeons. At a hospital near the barracks the most shameful spectacles were recently brought to light by the visit of a citizen. The condition of the Department, so far as regards the care of the sick is concerned, has deteriorated since the supercession of Gen. FREMONT, who intrusted the care of the sick to the superintendence of the Sanitary Commission.

The news from England still excites considerable apprehension. There is a growing opinion that it is the settled purpose of the ruling powers in England and possibly France to take advantage of our adversity to crush what they see in us—a dangerous rival. Let but this purpose be unequivocally shown, and the general and unanimous feeling is that we are bound in honor to fight again for the third time the battles of Liberty and Democracy, and to thwart the ambitious designs of Imperialism and State-craft.

The ice is running freely in the river—weather very cold, and with the exception of Christmas preparations, little business doing.

A movement against PRICE may be expected soon, but Columbus is to be left until the West is cleared up. No man knoweth what a day may bring forth.

GALWAY.

GEN. HALLECK ON THE CONTRABAND QUESTION.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Dec. 28.

The legal condition of the negroes discharged yesterday, by order of the Provost-Marshal, is, in no wise, changed. They are only freed from confinement and sale on the presumption that they are slaves. Gen. HALLECK says that this order will not debar any one from enforcing his legal rights to the services of these negroes. Such rights, if any exist, can be enforced through the legal (civil tribunals of the State, whose mandates will always be duly respected by the military authorities of this Department.

Military officers cannot decide upon the rights of property or claims to service, except as far as may be authorized by the laws of war or acts of Congress. When not so authorized, they will avoid all interference with such questions.

DESTRUCTION OF BRIDGES BY THE REBELS.

QUINCY, Ill., Saturday, Dec. 28.

The bridges over the Fabins and North Rivers, on the Palmyra Railroad, were set on fire by the rebels last night, and destroyed.

A REVENUE CUTTER ASHORE.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 28.

The revenue cutter *Howell Cobb*, from the Lakes *via* Quebec, for Boston, went ashore at Lane's Hole, Cape Ann, last night. The crew were saved, but the vessel is a total loss.

A Norwegian Steam Corvette.

The Norwegian steam corvette *Nornen*, Capt. SMITH, from St. Thomas in 14 days, arrived last evening. She is of 240 horse power, mounts 20 guns, and has a crew, including officers, of 190 men.

[Advertisement.]

FROCK PALETOT OVERCOATS, SACK OVERCOATS, CAPE OVERCOATS, ARMY OVERCOATS.

Now and elegant styles, at LOW PRICES.

DEVLIN & CO.,

Broadway, corner Warren-st.
Broadway, corner Grand-st.

[Advertisement.]

SEWARD AND RUSSELL.—The momentous question whether we shall have war or peace with England rests in the hands of those two statesmen. They will, we fear, have no little difficulty in deciding it so as to give satisfaction to their respective Governments. There is no difficulty, however, in deciding who is the leader of fashion in hats, for everybody knows that KNOX, No. 212 Broadway, is the man.

[Advertisement.]

FOLEY'S CELEBRATED GOLD PENS, Gold and Silver Pencil Cases, New styles for Holiday Presents.

JOHN FOLEY, Manufacturer, No. 163 Broadway.

[Advertisement.]

What an amount of suffering and disease among the volunteers would be prevented by the free use of HOLLOWAY'S PILLS and OINTMENT. For wounds, sores and scurvy the Ointment is a certain cure, and for bowel complaints, fevers, small-pox, &c., the pills are the best medicine in the world.

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HATS FOR THE HOLIDAYS. BERTE & Co., 156 BROADWAY, 156

Have a complete assortment of Gentlemen's and Young Gents' Holiday Hats.

[Advertisement.]

"CENTRAL PARK SKATE EMPORIUM."—Skates from 25 cents to $25. Everything in the skating line (except ponds) to suit all ages, sexes, tastes and purses. Parlor skates. We make a specialty of skates. CONOVER & WALKER, No. 474 Broadway.

Passengers Sailed.

DEC. 28.—*In steamship City of Washington, for Liverpool*—Paul Compaignac, E. Hermes, W. H. Hudson and wife, A. L. Griffin, Capt. McKinnon, Wm. Merby, J. Hartley, Wm. P. Shaw, D. Black, Mrs. W. I. Eager and child, Allen Sand, Paul Oliver, Clarissa Hinds, Miss Watts, B. Undersdorff, W. H. Beare, James Gooder, W. T. Mather, G. A. Connor, M. Myers, F. Goodridge, F. C. Carter, F. Mraack and wife, J. Letoucky, A. Malinasky, E. L. Cantwell, Edward Heit, Jules Massa, Samuel Needham and wife, and others in the steerage.

Passengers Arrived.

In steamship Karnak, from Havana and Nassau, N. P.—Mr. B. M. Harding and two daughters, Mrs. A. Butz, L. L. Loothelmer, J. Schollman, R. Dammert, J. Cunningham, J. Lison, M. Velano, J. B. Thorpe, A. C. Palmes, J. Cuesha, J. A. Cortes, Lieut. R. S. Talon, J. Vasquiera, P. Mestre, H. H. Chase, Geo. Hodden, D. A. Ledlum, W. Ortes, D. Swaim, Total, 24.

SUNRISES AND SUNSETS THIS DAY.
Sun rises.... 7 16 | Sun sets.... 4 46 | Moon rises.... 5 39
Sandy Hook. 8 36 | Gov. Island. 8 46 | Hell Gate.... 11 00
SUNRISES AND SUNSETS TO-MORROW.
Sun rises.... 7 16 | Sun sets.... 4 47 | Moon rises.... 6 20
Sandy Hook. 8 36 | Gov. Island. 8 47 | Hell Gate.... 11 00

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....SATURDAY, Dec. 28.

Cleared.

Steamship Teutonia, (Ham.,) Taube, London, Kunhardt & Co.

Steamers Chesapeake, Crowell, Portland, H. B. Cromwell & Co.; Kennebec, Carlton, Philadelphia.

Ships Simla, (Br.,) Williams, Liverpool, Howland & Foshingham; Bells of the Sea, Sizabee, San F. Francisco, D. Comstock & Co.; Tropic, Nowell, Havre, W. H. Rivesmith.

Barks Geo. Arkle, (Br.